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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Military Leave Abuses Criticized

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 77 p 2

[Letter by Engr-Lt Col V. Kolesnikov: "But Does 'Family Obligation' Require This?"]

[Text] The personnel of our unit are successfully carrying out their socialist obligations. Many servicemen have been awarded incentives for high accomplishments in service. Several of them were granted short leaves for special zeal. The feelings of a serviceman going on leave are understandable. A son-serviceman's leave is a big family holiday. Returning to the unit, the furloughed servicemen talk about how the collectives are doing where they had worked before, about how their native region is doing well, and becoming richer.

But among those who have returned to the unit, from time to time you meet a comrade who hides his eyes. On his leave pass is a notation about extension of leave due to "family circumstances." But you see, before his departure there was a parting conversation. The family circumstances were, of course, of interest to the commander, and they were completely good. Is it possible that the joyous occasion--the arrival of a son--changed them for the worse?

In life anything can happen. That is why the military commissariat is given the right to extend the leave of a serviceman when necessary. But is it always used responsibly? This is doubtful. Last year in our unit 240 days were added locally to leaves. Judging by the facts it is not difficult to extend leave due to "family circumstances" in the Yermekhevskiy Rayon military commissariat, Bashkirskaya ASSR; Levashinskiy Rayon military commissariat, Dagestanskaya ASSR; and in individual military commissariats of the Samarkandskaya and Andizhanskaya oblasts. Moreover, here it is not considered necessary to notify the commanders of the reasons for the delay of their subordinates, a fact which gives rise to unnecessary correspondence.

An unforeseen absence of one or another servicemen from his duty station adversely impacts on the organization of service. But the "complacency" of some military commissariats is especially harmful in the matter of education. A leave extended without foundation ceases to be a deserved incentive. Its educational significance as a moral stimulus comes to naught.

On Improving Suggestion Program

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 77 p 2

[Letter by Engr-Capt A. Besedin: "What Are Our Reserves"?]

[Text] If the work of the rationalizers of our subunit was expressed in figures, such a picture would be obtained: 60 suggestions forwarded; 22 introduced; 20 turned down; the remaining, as they say, in the works. On the whole, the indicator are not bad, unless it is considered that a third of the rationalizers' suggestions were turned down. Of course, in the flow of applications there may be those which will not receive recognition for one reason or another. But the very fact of the rejection of such a large number of suggestions says something about the quality of the "consideration of ideas."

The communists of the subunit discussed the article "Production Lines and Thresholds" (see KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 1 March 1977). It helped us to look at our work critically, to uncover shortcomings, to jointly plan the way to improve it, to draw more servicemen into technical creativity, and to raise its effectiveness.

The article's authors are absolutely correct saying the creativity of rationalizers is an aspect of morale. And of course each first and second class specialist, each master in military matters participating in socialist competition must declare himself an active rationalizer. That is the way it must be. However, in reality we at times run into the opposite. Unfortunately, even in our subunit there are specialists who do not engage in rationalization work systematically. In introducing all specialists to this work we see a reserve for the further development of the serviceman's creativity.

From the very beginning of the training year we devoted special attention to improving the supply of training aids and to the creation of new training simulation apparatuses and the improvement of existing ones. Many officers of the subunit were drawn into the practical work of making stands and training equipment. But it happened that not all of them delved deeply into what they were doing. As a result, after all the work was completed, alterations began.

As was already stated, the percentage of our suggestions turned down is high. Why? The initial reason is usually that the Commission for Inventions and Rationalization at times thinks that the higher authority (namely the manufacturing plant and the scientific research institute) will not approve these suggestions. The argument is not very convincing; you see it is clear to all, including the members of the commission, that a demonstrated improvement is beneficial. It also happens that the commission accepts the suggestion and forwards it to the proper department. The reply does not come soon. And the authors of the article "Production Lines and Thresholds" are correct in saying that this sort of red tape clips the wings and dampens the enthusiasm of the innovators and does not further the creative activity of the rationalizers.

And there is still more. In the general catalogs of rationalizers' submitted suggestions may be found those which were accepted for introduction but whose authors departed the subunit, not having succeeded in bringing the work to a conclusion. To take up that work is also the obligation of the innovator. And for beginners, participation in such work is a good school for acquiring skills in rationalization and inventing.

Purposeful, well thought out rationalizing work must also be supported with material. We have a good class of technical creativity. But meanwhile the rationalizers at times get by as best they can.

Commanders and party organs must give more attention to order to awaken in every serviceman a creative relationship toward his work, and to achieve high indices in inventive and rationalizing work.

Delay in School Renovations Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 May 77 p 2

[Letter by Capt I. Dikhtyar: "Red Tape - The Third Year"]

[Text] The military school at which I teach is one of the oldest in the country. In recent years the classroom buildings have been renovated, and a new mess hall and cadet tea room were built. And in 1974 we learned that the Carpathian Military District KEU [Quartering Directorate] had included one of the oldest barracks in the school in the itemized list of capital repairs. This made us, the instructors and students, very happy, since the living quarters had become unsuitable.

And then, after the decision of the KEU, the personnel living in the barracks were quickly resettled in the gym. Having vacated the quarters we began to await the builders. However they did not appear. It turned out that the planning estimates were not ready. Quite some time passed while the designers prepared blueprints. Finally the builders also appeared. However, there were so few of them, and the tempo of the repairs was such, that here it is already the third year in which the students are living in the gym.

The command of the school has repeatedly appealed to the okrug KEU, requesting that the delayed repair work be accelerated. However, besides promises to take measures immediately, we have simply waited for nothing. As it has turned out, everything now has come up against the question of who must provide materials for the repair of the barracks--the KEU or the construction administration or the okrug.

Presently much is being done in the school in connection with preparations for the all-army conference for improving the way of life of the forces. It seems to me that we have a right to expect also a more energetic decision on the question of the repair of the student barracks.

9069

CSO: 1801

TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN MILITARY DISTRICTS

Missilemen Demonstrate Their Skill

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col V. Parfenov, correspondent: "Precision Strikes"]

[Text] Red Banner Kiev Military District. The missilemen of N unit, operating on tactical exercises with an actual launch of military rockets, demonstrated a high degree of training. They accomplished 80 percent of the tasks concerning plotting group and individual rocket strikes with the mark of "excellent."

The subordinates of Capt O. Shatunov and Sr Lt O. Tolok made an especially brilliant display of skill. The commander of the district forces, Col Gen I. Gerasimov, who attended the exercises, highly assessed the operation of the missilemen and encouraged many of them.

A high political and labor enthusiasm, aroused by discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution and the resolutions of the 6th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, reigns in the unit these days.

Safety Record Noted

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col F. Bogdanov: "Thirty Years Without Accidents"]

[Text] Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. The pilots of the squadron commanded by pilot 1st class Maj V. Tikhonov are working these days with high patriotic enthusiasm. All the efforts of the personnel are directed toward the successful accomplishment of their accepted socialist commitments in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October.

A telegram was received at the aviator's address the other day from the district commander of aviation Lt Gen Avn N. Shibanov. He congratulated the personnel on the 30th anniversary of accident-free flight work.

At present 95 percent of the squadron's pilots are 1st and 2nd class.

Precision Tactical Flying Mission

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Capt A. Petrov: "By an Effective Maneuver"]

[Text] Order of Lenin Leningrad Military District. A group of supersonic missile carriers with variable geometry wings accurately passed by the next control reference point, and having accomplished an effective antiaircraft maneuver over a conditionally designated front line, they hastened to the strike objective.

The leader of the group, pilot 1st class Maj A. Avdeyev, made a small course correction and swung the missile carrier around for the attack. An instant later fiery spouts and puffs of smoke rose above the "enemy" positions. The bomb and rocket load from the air blanketed the target with pin-point accuracy.

The pilots also performed competently at the moment when, upon returning home, they were tasked with destroying a river crossing. The fighter pilots accomplished it brilliantly. Having appraised the tactical situation in a matter of seconds, they attained the target area by means of an energetic horizontal maneuver and delivered a crushing strike on the run. Pilots 1st class Maj A. Avdeyev and Capt A. Popov, pilot 2nd class Sr Lt V. Plekhanov and other pilots demonstrated outstanding tactical and flying skill in this difficult flight.

Tankmen Rewarded for Performance

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Lt Col A. Dembitskiy: "The Tankmen Fired Accurately"]

[Text] Red Banner Northern Caucasus Military District. The tank company which Sr Lt V. Samokhvalov commands, attacking in the heart of the "enemy's" defense, unexpectedly encountered stubborn resistance. Unneutralized firing points came to life and antitank weapons appeared at a new strong point. At this difficult moment for the tankmen, the gunners brilliantly displayed their skill. Sgt V. Ivanov and Pvts A. Valuyskiy and A. Nikandrov performed calmly and confidently.

Arm Gen V. Petrov, first deputy commander in chief of the ground forces, who attended the exercises, gave a high assessment to the firing training of the tankmen, and rewarded Sergeant Ivanov and Privates Valuyskiy and Nikandrov with valuable presents.

Rocket Strike Training Mission

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Maj A. Yurkin, correspondent: "Precision Strike"]

[Text] Red Banner Siberian Military District. The rocket subunit which Maj O. Vechevov commands received an order to go out secretly to a given area and deliver a strike to advancing "enemy" reserves. The rocket strike was accurate and crushing.

This success especially pleased the experienced leader of the combined field studies, Maj V. Shchetinin. After all, his students, Maj O. Vechevov and Capt V. Lysak, secretary of the party organization, were accomplishing the combat training mission. They had completed a good combat launch school as the best specialists. Now, in the days of the all-union discussion of the draft of the new USSR Constitution, the subunit occupies a leading position in competition.

Battle Against the Elements

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Lt Col V. Izmaylov: "Stronger Than the Elements"]

[Text] Red Banner Far East Military District. A storm system with hurricane winds suddenly fell upon a high mountain "point." For five days the men of the outstanding radio engineering subunit, whose deputy commander for political affairs is Maj V. Podol'skiy, struggled with the elements and icing-over.

The secretary of the subunit's Komsomol organization, Jr Sgt N. Bem, was the first to climb the antenna tower. Pvts I. Pusikov and Yu. Khaitov, members of the Komsomol, were behind him. Meter by meter the men freed the ellipsoidal antenna from ice, breaking it off with birch clubs. Their clothing became covered with a crust of ice, their hands became numb, and their feet slipped on the icy metal. Jr Sgt M. Nigmatulin and Pvts A. Vagner and N. Nurgaliyev relieved the exhausted men. The icing was likewise fought courageously at other stations. Officers V. Podol'skiy, Ye. Aleksandrov, and N. Martynov displayed an example of courage to their subordinates.

When the wind reached a velocity of 100 km per hour and working on the towers became dangerous, Pvt V. Alakhtayev suggested tying axes to long poles and breaking off the ice by this means.

The elements did not disturb the efficient rhythm of military work and life of the subunit.

Antitank Maneuvers With Howitzers

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Capt V. Goncharov: "From the Howitzers at the Tanks"]

[Text] Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District. The howitzer battery commanded by Lt A. Volkov was given the task of neutralizing a column of "enemy" infantry in vehicles with fire from covered firing positions.

The initial data for firing was prepared in a short time. The firing platoon commanders accurately supervised the actions of the crews. After a brief ranging fire, the troops opened volley fire.

At that moment the "enemy," having secretly accomplished a maneuver, threw tanks at the gunners' left flank position. However, the abrupt change in the situation did not take the battery's troops by surprise.

From reconnaissance data, Lieutenant Volkov knew about the presence of a group of "enemy" tanks in the area of combat activities. He prudently allotted two howitzers for pointblank firing and ordered the acting platoon commander, Jr Sgt V. Vlasov, to camouflage them on the battery's left flank.

The calculation proved correct. It was right there that the armored vehicles appeared. Receiving howitzer fire from the ambush, they had to withdraw. Meanwhile, despite the absence of two weapons, the battery successfully accomplished its basic mission. The gunners managed to do this due to the rapid, well-coordinated actions of a number of crews and their ability to utilize with maximum effectiveness the high rate of fire of the howitzers.

Decontamination Procedures Practiced

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Sr Lt P. Gvozdev: "Through a Contaminated Zone"]

[Text] Red Banner Far East Military District. The "enemy," striving to break away from a pursuit, used poisonous and radioactive substances. However, this did not stop the advance of the company commanded by Lt V. Armenin.

The armored transports, with closed hatches and louvers, continued the pursuit of the "enemy." Kilometer after kilometer, the vehicles surmounted the danger zone nonstop at top speed.

And then it was behind them. At the officer's command, the men quickly conducted a partial decontamination of the equipment and weapons. Sgt V. Gofman and Pvts V. Zatepyakin and S. Gorabovskiy performed skillfully. Having completed the special treatment of equipment, weapons, and clothing, the motorized rifle troops again rushed forward.

Reconnaissance Information Decisive

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Maj L. Golovnev, correspondent: "Reconnaissance Reported Accurately"]

[Text] Red Banner Turkestan Military District. Utilizing terrain features, the military reconnaissance patrol commanded by Sr Lt N. Kasperovich confidently advanced in the stated direction. The stereoscopic telescope glass

flashing in the sun, and the camouflaged net, noticeably distinguishable against a background of withered grass, did not escape the attentive notice of the scouts.

The officer deployed the patrol in a battle line, then dispatched a vehicle to a saxaul thicket. Several gunshots rang out from the bushes. Having returned the "enemy's" fire, the scouts withdrew: it was clear that there was also a strong point to the right. The battalion commander was sent a radio dispatch concerning the fact that the military reconnaissance patrol had encountered a well-fortified company strong point.

The successful actions of the attackers were for the most part predetermined by accurate information. The senior commander, who had attended the exercises, expressed his appreciation to Senior Lieutenant Kasperovich.

Unusual Tank Tactic

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Sr Lt G. Kupriyan: "Tanks Travel On the Waves"]

[Text] Red Banner Odessa Military District. The tankmen of the company commanded by Sr Lt G. Zaytsev received an unusual mission during tactical exercises. They were ordered to accomplish a march covering many kilometers... by sea, and deliver a sudden strike to the "enemy," who had consolidated his hold on the sea coast.

The sea was stormy and a salty wave rolled onto the armor. But the white-caps well camouflaged the column of multiton vehicles proceeding along the waves. Having approached to within range for direct fire, the tanks afloat reformed in battle order and opened fire on the defenders' strong point. Then the combat vehicles went ashore and rushed to the attack. The strike from the sea by the tankmen was unexpected, and the defenders lost the battle.

The men from platoons commanded by Lts O. Chebotarskiy and P. Shingarev especially distinguished themselves on the march along the sea and during the attack.

9087

CSO: 1801

OBLIGATIONS OF MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATES DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 77 p 1

[Editorial: "The High Obligation of Academy Graduates"]

[Text] The Communist Party and the Soviet Government, while deciding questions on further strengthening of the socialist homeland defensive capability, are continually paying attention to training military cadres. Thanks to their concern, our Armed Forces are being continually replenished with ideologically hardened and highly qualified specialists--military academy graduates. This year, graduation took place amidst national political and labor enthusiasm generated by preparation for celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Great October, by the decisions of the May (1977) CPSU CC Plenum, and the national discussion of the USSR's new draft constitution.

An atmosphere of elation also reigned at the traditional reception in honor of the military academy graduates, arranged by the USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. The reception participants welcomed, with enormous enthusiasm, the greeting from the CPSU CC, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR which was announced by Marshall of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU CC Politburo and Minister of Defense of the USSR. The firm conviction was expressed in the greeting that the military academy graduates will be exemplary in performing their duty to the homeland, and will use their skills and energy to train warriors and to instill in them utter devotion to the party and the people, and to constant readiness to defend the socialist homeland. To fulfill this mandate of the party and government with honor is the high obligation of every Soviet officer.

During their studies in the military academies, the graduates received fine ideological and political training, sound knowledge of social, military and specialized sciences, and sound skills in the organization of personnel training and education. The top graduates received honors diplomas and gold medals. Among them were Lt Col V. Lazarev, Maj N. Smirnov, Maj A. Aleksandrov, Capt 3d Rank A. Nikolayev, Engr-Capt B. Pushkov, Engr-Capt Yu. Bykov and others.

Along with officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, a large group of representatives from armies of the fraternal socialist countries graduated from the military academies. The training in Soviet higher military-educational institutions armed them with profound knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory and methodology and the most advanced military science. Soviet academies have become the school of proletarian internationalism for them.

The graduates will arrive in the forces at the concluding stage of this year's intense combat training. The results of the first half of it showed that the combat mastership of the personnel has grown. Along with this, life is placing new tasks on the Army and Navy. To successfully perform them, academy graduates as well as all officers must have not only theoretical knowledge, but also the ability to organize matters. They are called upon to become advocates of all the most modern and advanced methods.

In their practical activity, the military academy graduates should always remember that the primary asset of the Army and the Navy is its personnel who are infinitely devoted to the cause of the party and the people. Concern for the warriors and training and education of their subordinates must always be first and foremost with the commander, political worker, and engineer. The primary obligation of the graduates lies in, irrespective of the posts they occupy, organically uniting within themselves party spirit with profound competence, discipline with initiative and a creative approach to matters, continually considering social-political and educational aspects, and being sensitive to people, their needs and requests.

Military academies give officers fine training. However, their final formation occurs in practical work. In the training fields and command posts, during exercises and long ocean voyages, the skills and knowledge obtained are consolidated and polished, and the ability is sharpened to creatively, from party positions, approach resolution of questions on further enhancement of the combat readiness of units and ships, improvement of skills of subordinates, and strengthening of military discipline, organization and order.

Military academy graduates have to immediately, without any building up, include themselves in the intense rhythm of army and navy activity, and actively participate in carrying out the missions levied on the units and ships, in accomplishing socialist pledges assumed by the personnel in competition for a fitting welcome to the 60th Anniversary of Great October and in the contest for the leading large unit.

While carrying out the important and responsible missions arising from the 25th CPSU Congress, military academy graduates must continually rely on party and Komsomol organizations and actively participate in social-political work. While skillfully directing the efforts of the military collective to resolution of the questions on further strengthening of combat readiness, raising personnel skills, military discipline and organization, and while working in close contact with the masses, the leader will certainly achieve success.

Military science is continually developing. This means that military academy graduates have no right to be satisfied with the knowledge obtained during training. They are bound to persistently and purposefully enrich their knowledge with the latest achievements in military science and practice, expand their horizon and raise their political and cultural level.

The officers and generals who have graduated from the academies will go into the forces with a burning desire to make their worthy contribution to the accomplishment of the weighty missions facing the armed forces today. This business-like attitude must be supported and strengthened in every way. Commanders, political organs and party organizations are called upon to do all that is necessary to ensure successful service and a model life of the graduates, and to help them master their position responsibilities in minimum time. One must in every way support their initiative, instill in them a sense of personal responsibility for the matters entrusted to them, help them to critically evaluate achieved results, and strengthen their authority in the military collectives. It is no less important to actively, from the first days of their service, involve the academy graduates in the work of the party and Komsomol organizations and in social activity.

Interesting and responsible service awaits the academy graduates. Broad and multifaceted prospects are open to them. No matter where they are or what missions they are performing, they must measure each of their steps with the high destination of the Soviet Army and Navy. The USSR's new draft constitution states that "The duty of the Armed Forces of the USSR to the people is to reliably defend the socialist homeland, and to be in constant combat readiness, thus guaranteeing an instant rebuff to any aggressor." To dedicate themselves entirely to carrying out this mission is the high and honorable obligation of the military academy graduates.

8545

CSO: 1801

COMBAT ENGINEER BRIDGE BUILDING TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Major A. Polyakov, correspondent for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, North Caucasus Military District: "The Bridge Goes Under Water"]

[Text] Our vehicle rolled down the steep bank, washed away by the heavy downpour, and moved into the river. At least it seemed that way: ahead, to the right and to the left, turbid waves were splashing. The driver was seemingly glued to the wheel. The uazik [Vehicle made by the Ul'yanovsk Automobile Plant] started "swimming" through the water's mirror-like surface. In reality, though, the vehicle's wheels were moving along a reliable steel road. Beneath us was an underwater bridge.

Captain A. Zhuravlev, who was executing the duties of a combat engineering battalion commander for the exercise, was studying the map quadrant which intersected a meandering light blue thin line. It was expedient to erect the river crossing precisely at a bend for the rear subunits of the attacking forces. But Warrant Officer (praporshchik) M. Volkov, engineering intelligence group commander, had just reported that the river depth here exceeded permissible standards for installation of an underwater bridge, and the bank was covered with silt and steep. What to do? Select a sector with more favorable conditions? The captain looked thoughtfully at the map for several seconds and then decisively crossed, with a sharp pencil, the light blue line of the water barrier at its bend.

On the eve of this field exercise, Colonel P. Donets, district chief of engineering forces, had come out to the engineers. He was interested in how they were carrying out the training plan and the pledges adopted, and he talked with the new soldiers who were assimilating the complex equipment. Then he gathered the officers for a meeting.

"I noticed that you are trying to lay a bridge only at the optimum depth," the colonel said. "But what if the river turns out to be deeper under combat conditions?"

There were various responses to this question. Some maintained that in this case the preference had to go to floating bridges; others referred to the lack of practice of activities under these conditions.

"I believe that this is really theory for the time being," concluded the chief of the engineering forces. "And a test of all variations won't hurt. An officer must know not only the tactical and technical data of his equipment, but also the reserves concealed in it."

First, there were calculations. They were reassuring. However, during the first experiment, the bridge did not go under water. A false step had been made during assembly. It seemed that the skeptics were right. But then the company commander, Senior Lieutenant A. Lavrenov, suggested a somewhat different technology of laying.

They tried it. It worked. They tested the bridge for carrying capacity. It turned out that even under the most complex conditions it remained high. The river crossing operated reliably.

Captain Zhuravlev, making the decision in the dynamics of the exercise, also remembered these "experimental" training exercises. He relied on the experience gained.

The ZIL's [Vehicles made by the Moscow Automobile Plant im. I. A. Likhachev], loaded with heavy spans, came to the river. Backing up, raising their radiators to the sky, they were lowered down the steep bank to the water's edge. One after the other, the bridge links flew into the river.

The intense work was in full swing. Lieutenant A. Zhukov's subordinates are operating harmoniously. The officer provided for the rational assignment of people in the platoon's section of the bridge. Experienced specialists worked alongside novices. Their advice and aid means a lot in these crucial seconds.

Somewhere there in the deep, the steel piers dug into the ground. You sense it with a special force: the bridge is a team effort. Extremely well coordinated work of the most varied specialists is required during its erection. It is no coincidence that more than 10 technical training groups had been set up in the subunit.

And here on the bridge all the noise is dying down. The keys have been inserted into the special slots.

"Open the Kingston and air valves!" commands Captain Zhuravlev. A united movement of dozens of hands and in a few moments the bridge goes under water.

The river freely rolled its waves. It is hard to believe that under the thickness of the water is hidden a river crossing--reliable and operable. Our uazik forms up in the wake of a powerful ZIL which, raising milky white

breakers, is moving to the opposite bank.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Left: In the area of the crossing. Company commander Lieutenant N. Shekhter assigns a mission to assistant platoon leader, Sergeant P. Kravchenko.

Right: The underwater bridge in operation.

8545

CSO: 1801

TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN OUTSTANDING MISSILE BATTERY

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Col Ye. Babynin, correspondent for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, in the column: "For Service to the Homeland": "Missile Accuracy"]

[Text] The battery received the mission on the march: deploy and with a rush strike the "enemy." Major I. Sandovenko issued the necessary orders. He saw to it that each of his subordinates acted accurately and nimbly in these crucial seconds. But nevertheless, he was anxious: a combat launch. In the life of a missileman, this is not an ordinary event.

The battery has glorious traditions. It has maintained the high title of excellent for six years. For the last three years, Major Ivan Sergeyevich Sandovenko has led it to the cherished mark.

Behind the indicators that reflect the success in socialist competition is a lot of work. Both of the commander and of the entire collective.

The rhythm of activity and combat training in the battery is tough: weekly joint activities. Each field trip is thoroughly and comprehensively prepared for. The commander works out the tactical situation in detail, is sure to put new features into it everytime, and includes elements requiring high psychological stability, resourcefulness, initiative and, of course, faultless knowledge of the equipment on the part of the trainees.

And yet another feature is visibly gone over in any of the battery's field activities: an individual approach to each of the specialists. The officers receive specific missions in this plan and take the actions of a certain soldier or sergeant under their wing. In the battery--and the commander deserves a lot of credit for this--each of the officers not only knows well the tactics and equipment, but can also exemplarily perform the duties of a crew member. This is exactly the model that is attained, as is well known, as a result of intense training. Sandovenko himself--a master of combat qualification--sets the example. Ivan Sergeyevich knows how to brilliantly perform the duties of any specialist.

A night exercise episode is remembered in the battery. In performing the standard on pointing the launcher at the target, one of the sighters delayed and made an error in setting the sight. And then he tried to justify himself: it is difficult, they say, to be accurate when performing a daylight standard in the dark. Then the battery commander gave a stop watch to his subordinates and put himself in the sighter's place. The lesson was learned by those affected: the time which ensures an excellent evaluation was reduced by 40%. Everyone understood: the main reserve of any crew member is a raise in his state of training.

In training, the officers continually stepped up the rate in combat work. The search for ways to improve the technology of some operations did not cease. And again the battery commander set the example for all. Night after night, he pondered over working out the relay of time needed when using a wind gun. He then suggested a special shell case which allowed firing a blank automatic round from this gun. Such improvements save quite a few valuable seconds.

The battery commander considers raising the professional and methodological training of the officers his main concern, also preferring individual work in this area. A new crew chief, Lieutenant V. Kuprysh, arrived in the battery prior to this training year. The officer, well trained theoretically, did not have the sound skills of an organizer. Major Sandovenko made up a plan for phased development in him of the necessary skills. First he helped him to grasp the range of his functional duties and to thoroughly master the equipment. Then he began to extend his knowledge of methodology, military pedagogy and psychology. The battery commander helped the crew chief organize classes on the most complex subjects and to set up competition in missions and standards. Months passed. Today one can already speak of the successful formation of the new officer. His comrades also added to his skills.

And then at the next summing up of the results of the competition for a fitting celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Great October, the battalion commander congratulated Major Sandovenko on his victory: the battery won first place.

... The hand of the stop watch ticked off the seconds. After monitoring the pointing of the launcher at the target, Major Sandovenko went to the control post. The team started firing immediately.

"Launch!"

The missile sped away to the target.

After some time, the report arrived: deviation within the limits of the norm. Yet another outstanding launch was added to the account of the battery that is confidently carrying out its socialist pledges. Major Sandovenko--bearer of the order "For Service to the Homeland in the Armed Forces of the USSR," 3d degree--confidently leads his subordinates to the cherished objective: maintain the battery's rank of excellent for the seventh year running.

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CSO: 1801

STAFF OFFICER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jul 77 p 1

[Editorial: "The Staff Officer"]

[Text] Guards Major P. Yermakov, regimental chief of communications, has great prestige with those serving with him. A specialist 1st class and an experienced methodologist, he skillfully directs the combat and political training of the communication subunits and deeply involves all regimental personnel in his specialty in the training. The classes conducted by him with the officers and warrant officers (praporshchiki) are distinguished by their high effectiveness and quality. At his initiative, several technical improvements have been introduced which made it possible to raise the stability of communications on exercises even higher. Major Yermakov actively participates in social work and is the assistant secretary of the staff party organization. Other staff officers are also distinguished by the breadth of their ideological and theoretical horizon and high professional training.

Party spirit and competence, discipline and a creative approach to matters, exactingness and a sensitive attitude toward people. These qualities, which define, as underscored at the 25th Party Congress, the make-up of the modern leader, are characteristics of the absolute majority of staff officers. It is difficult to overestimate the role and value of this multitudinous vanguard of military cadres in the activity of the Armed Forces.

Modern combat with its inherent tendency toward growth in dynamism, decisiveness in action, saturation with equipment and weaponry, makes great demands on the staff and on the level of operational-tactical and technical training of its officers. High staff culture, the capability to creatively perform the assigned tasks, flexibility in thought, accuracy, operativeness, persistence in realization of command concepts--a staff officer without all this is inconceivable. He must know profoundly the nature of modern combat and know how to employ the entire arsenal of means and methods of conflict in the interests of executing the assigned mission and to use progressive methods and control hardware in full measure.

The basis for forming these qualities and growth in the professional mastership of the staff officer is profound knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory, ideological conviction and a broad political horizon. No narrow specialist, not simply a tactician or engineer, but first of all, a person with a state and party approach to matters, with a sense of high responsibility for each executed document, a persistent campaigner for raising the quality and effectiveness of combat training and control of the forces, and for further strengthening of discipline and organization--this is our concept of the modern staff officer.

Socialist competition for a fitting celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Great October and the 60th Anniversary of the Armed Forces serves as a mighty incentive to growth in creative activity of staff officers. While preparing for these famous dates, staff officers, as all personnel, have made high pledges. Their successful accomplishment will allow them to take a new step forward in growth of personal professional mastership, and consequently, to also have an even more substantial influence on the activity of the troops. Staffs and their party organizations can do much in the widespread movement in the Armed Forces for the leading large unit.

The quality and effectiveness of combat and political training and the effectiveness of competition--this is today the main area where the staff officer's professional maturity is proven. The planning of combat training, monitoring its course and the faithful execution of plans and programs, activity schedules, socialist pledges, propaganda of the most progressive methods of training and education, introduction of progressive methods--this is far from a complete list of ways the staff influences the results of military labor. And here success depends, naturally, on how each officer, in the area entrusted to him, will convert into specific measures the general requirement--to raise the effectiveness and quality of combat training. Needing special concern is the development of military thought, and the timely introduction of the achievements of science and technology and progressive methods into the activity of the troops and naval forces.

A reliable path to increasing the staff officer's service efficiency is the mastery of the Leninist style of work which means in the first place, concern for ideological hardening, development of initiative, and raising responsibility and exactingness on himself and his subordinates. Both during everyday training and during various types of tests, the staff officer is called upon to set an example of high standards and to evaluate what has been achieved by the high measure of combat. Naturally, monitoring from his aspect will bring the greatest results when he will be directed to prevent possible errors and shortcomings and to render concrete assistance to those in need of it.

Improving the work style of the staffs is the most important item in the campaign for quality and effectiveness of combat training. Unfortunately, some staffs are lagging behind the requirements of the time, are insufficiently concerned about introducing scientific organization of labor, and

are not displaying persistence in the campaign for strong military order, discipline and organization. Some staff officers are not taking an active part in agitation-mass work and rarely lecture or talk to subunit personnel on political and military-technical subjects as well as on the problems of military education. Party organizations are still not always reacting on principle to the shortcomings at hand. It is necessary to increase in every way the activeness and combat efficiency of staff party organizations and to achieve further strengthening of their influence on all aspects of the activity of the organs of command and control. They are called upon to create in the collective of each staff an environment of creativity, high exactingness, and persistent striving for improvement in the methods of directing the troops.

Laboring in the staffs are mature and trained people whose experience and knowledge are especially valuable for the new officer generation and for training and educating the troops. They make a weighty contribution to raising the combat readiness of the units and ships. The duty of commanders, political organs, chiefs of staffs, and party organizations is to display continuing concern for growth in the prestige of the staff officer. It must also not be forgotten that this prestige depends primarily on the personal competence and active vital position of the staff officer. Special attention must be paid to the quality of activities in the staff officer training system and in Marxist-Leninist training groups.

The national discussion of the USSR's new draft constitution has evoked high patriotic enthusiasm among the warriors in the Army and Navy. The duty of staff officers, as well as of all military cadres, is to take an active part in this important political campaign. At the same time, it is important to efficiently use this enthusiasm and to concentrate efforts on ensuring high effectiveness and quality of summer training, the decisive stage in the campaign for successful completion of the training year and for a fitting celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Great October.

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CSO: 1801

POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION ON DRAFT CONSTITUTION AT REGIMENTAL LEVEL

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Engr-Lt Col G. Manuylov, deputy secretary of the regimental party committee, in the column "Party Life: Let's Discuss the USSR's Draft Constitution": "A Mobilizing Force"]

[Text] Speaking in a political class, Private N. Kobylinskiy cited this fact: Puerto Ricans living in Chicago gathered there in one of the parks to mark their traditional "Puerto Rico Day." The demonstration participants demanded independence be granted to the island which is actually an American colony. How did the authorities treat the demonstrators? Here's how: 2 killed, about 60 wounded.

This fact, let us say frankly, is illustrative of the capitalist world which boasts of its democracy. Commenting on it, the soldier said:

"This is the vaunted American 'freedom!' Bourgeois democracy--this is democracy for the rich. When the interests of capitalists are affected, they stop at nothing...."

Speaking with emotion, the warrior said that only socialism, only a rule of the workers provides genuine freedom, material comforts and broad opportunities for satisfaction of spiritual needs. "Our laws," he said, "guarantee people great rights: to equal rights, work, rest, health protection, education.... Against this background, how pitiful look the vain attempts of bourgeois propaganda to ascribe to capitalism concern for 'rights' and 'freedoms'...."

This is one of the numerous displays of ardent interest in the published document by the warriors, their high patriotic feeling and class consciousness. The warriors heartily and unanimously approve of the draft Basic Law of the developed socialist state. It seems to me that if the expressions of the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers (praporshchiki) and officers in our regiment alone were collected, we would have an interesting book revealing the spirit of our men and our Soviet way of life.

In familiarizing themselves with the USSR's draft constitution, the warriors properly understand the importance of the document, maturely appraise its meaning, probe into the content of the articles and express their judgments. It goes without saying that this is fine and makes us glad. But this circumstance does not mean that we, communists, should not be concerned about strengthening organizational work in the propaganda, study and discussion of the draft constitution. On the contrary, the high level of education of the audience and its ardent interest make even higher demands on our work. And we are striving to see that it meets these demands.

Immediately, as soon as the press published the draft constitution and the report by comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the party's Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional commission, at the May (1977) plenum of the CPSU CC, the regimental party committee commenced its broad effort. Operative discussions on the plenum and textual readings of the newspapers were held. But even before the newspapers arrived, listening to the documents on radio was organized. Considering that some of the warriors were on duty and details, we recorded the broadcasts on magnetic tape and then played them back over the regimental radio network.

Political information went to all the subunits and the regimental directing staff spoke to the personnel. Graphic propaganda of the materials of the CPSU CC plenum and session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR was designed. In the Lenin rooms, besides the newspaper files, special cases were set up where the draft constitution, comrade L. I. Brezhnev's report, excerpts from periodicals on the national discussion of the draft, and international comments can always be borrowed. In short, from the very first day, we tried to do everything to give the warriors a broad familiarization with the important political documents.

But this is only the start of the great effort in profound study and propaganda of the draft Basic Law of the country. A plan was compiled and we discussed it and approved it at party committee meetings. We decided to discuss the tasks of communists at a party meeting. Seminars were held with political workers, party activists in the subunits, and supernumerary propagandists. Speaking on how to organize and lead discussions on the draft, the activists paid special attention to the necessity of combining this work organically with the preparation for the 60th Anniversary of Great October. This required expansion of the already prepared lectures and reports and sound planning for thematic evenings, evenings for questions and answers, and Lenin lessons. The agitation-propagandist group engaged in urgent preparation of lectures directly on the draft constitution. For example, Major P. Fedorov has already given a lecture entitled "Democracy of Developed Socialism." Lieutenant Colonel V. Mamonenko is also actively speaking to the warriors.

Study of the USSR's draft constitution and comrade L. I. Brezhnev's report has evoked a new patriotic enthusiasm among the warriors and a desire to achieve high indicators in improving combat mastership. Take, for example,

a battalion tactical exercise. It took place in a complex situation which required a great effort of moral and physical strengths. But the warriors successfully accomplished all assigned missions. The radio station crew under the command of Warrant Officer A. Ustimenko had to carry out an independent mission while cut off from the subunit. The warrant officer, who was accepted into the party literally right before departing for the exercise, worked exceptionally diligently and got his subordinates enthused by his example. He found the time to talk to his warriors about the May plenum of the CPSU CC and the USSR's draft constitution.

Intense combat training is underway in the regiment. The patriotic enthusiasm generated in the warriors by the study and discussion of the USSR's draft constitution is having a beneficial effect on the quality of combat and political training and on the accomplishment of socialist pledges in honor of the 60th Anniversary of Great October. The regimental party organization sees its mission, using the mobilizing force of the decisions of the May (1977) plenum of the CPSU CC and the draft Basic Law of the country, as directing the energy of the personnel to enhancement of the unit's combat readiness and to successful accomplishment of the missions in this jubilee year.

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CSO: 1801

NAVAL TRAINING AND NAVAL RELATED ACTIVITIES

Aboard Large ASW Ship

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Gds Capt 3d Rank V. Yeremin, commander of outstanding Guards large ASW ship "Krasnyy Krym": "Guards Relay Race"]

[Excerpts] The word "continuity" is dear to me. To a great extent, it determines the life's position of each of us. It seems to me that it is invisibly present in the impression which you carry away from the reading of the draft Constitution of the USSR--in the special features of those articles which discuss the sacred duty to defend the socialist Fatherland. To carry the baton in a worthy manner, guarding the honor and adding to the glory of the older generation of Soviet seamen--this is the behest the loyalty to which we are striving to demonstrate by deed.

On the anniversary day of the raising of the naval colors on the large anti-submarine warfare [ASW] ship "Krasnyy Krym" veterans are arriving--members of the crew of the famous cruiser "Krasnyy Krym" whose Guards flag and name on the side we have inherited.

You should see the great interest with which the veterans, our honored guests, are becoming familiar with the equipment and weapons. And their pride in the contemporary "Krasnyy Krym," a ship with wonderful combat qualities, is completely natural.

But the veterans look into the faces of the seamen on whom this equipment is dependent with much greater partiality. And this is also natural. They know as no one else does that it is not the weapons by themselves and not the equipment, however perfected it may be, which wins. People to whom the country has given ships, airplanes, and tanks for its defense are who win.

When the present commander of the missile-gunnery department of the BPK [large ASW ship] has the occasion to talk with the young specialists about the role of a second in battle, he often tells about the case from the practice

of a former commander of the cruiser's antiaircraft battery, B. Filosofov. The cruiser was standing at the pier one July day in 1941. The crew was occupied with work when a group of fascist bombers suddenly appeared at low altitude from behind a mountain fold. The battery commander and his subordinates instantaneously put down a curtain of barrage fire. The airplanes, which were making for the cruiser, were forced to change course. Unfortunately, on a destroyer which now found itself in the path of the bombers they were late in opening fire. The destroyer was lost.

Rear Admiral (Retired) A. Zubkov often reminds us: the battle victories of the "Krasnyy Krym" were prepared by strained training in peacetime.

A familiar thought. But when you hear it from a person whose word is backed up with military experience, you consider today's crews and our achievements and problems in a new way.

During the years which have passed since the time that the flag was hoisted on our ship, it has travelled hundreds of thousands of miles in various regions of the world's ocean.

Here are only two episodes from which one can judge the skill of those who have received the Guards baton. Being in the Mediterranean Sea, the "Krasnyy Krym" received instructions to check an anchorage which had not been visited by our ships for a long time. We arrived in the area at night, in bad weather. To find a buoy over which the waves continuously lash and which has an infinitesimal cross section, it is no easier in this situation than finding the notorious needle in the haystack. Calculations showed that the search area computed out to several square miles.

But Guards Captain 3d Rank B. Borodin, our navigator, guided the ship confidently. When movement was stopped on his recommendation, the boundless dark sea was raging all around. The searchlights were turned on, and the signalmen discovered the buoy 15 meters from the ship's side! Were wartime navigator K. Kalitiyevskiy on board the "Krasnyy Krym" at this instant, I am confident that he would not have had to blush for his successor.

And at the concluding stage of the cruise we had the occasion to fire at a high-speed low-flying target. Thanks to the excellent condition of the equipment whose parameters, despite the prolonged influence of unfavorable temperatures, humidity, and rocking had excellent values, and thanks to the high skill of the missilemen, the target was hit with the first missile and at maximum distance.

In such cases, it is customary to say that everyone distinguished himself. But I should like to single out communists commander of the guidance group Guards Senior Lieutenant Ye. Gerasimov and the chief of the crew, Warrant Officer [michmam] M. Piven', whose record of successful launchings has exceeded 100.

I should stress that we all trained for this missile firing with special responsibility and inspiration. Not long before this, being far from our native shores we radioed to Moscow, to the General Secretary of the Central Committee CPSU and the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev who is an honorary member of the crew of the "Krasnyy Krym," about our deeds.

We soon received a radiogram from Leonid Il'ich in which he expressed his confidence that the communists, Komsomols, and all the ship's seamen, petty officers, warrant officers, and officers, having glorious traditions, will also struggle in the future persistently for the accomplishment of the decisions of the 25th Congress of the CPSU and will march in the vanguard of the socialist competition for a further increase in combat readiness.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev desired the personnel to stand their ocean watch in defending the Soviet homeland dependably and vigilantly and to greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner.

These orders can in no way be more in consonance with the sentiments of the crew which is filled with resolve to greet the anniversary of October with new successes in combat training and competition. The command and party organization of the ship intend to attain their goal by relying on the tremendous patriotic enthusiasm caused by the nationwide discussion of the draft of the new Constitution of the USSR.

We are striving to increase the effectiveness of the competition, distinguishing such directions as improvement of the quality of training, competent operation of the equipment and good care of it, a further strengthening of discipline and organization, and increasing combat readiness.

When, in 1975, the "Krasnyy Krym" visited Toulon as a member of a detachment of ships, thousands of Frenchmen visited the ship. Much surprised them in the stories of our seamen. For example, that the obtaining of a higher education, including military, does not involve either class or property limitations.

In listening to the compliments directed toward our country and ship, I thought of the fact that the hair-splitting western reporters, just as other readers of bourgeois newspapers, at times perceive the external aspect of things and do not take the trouble to ponder over from where in our country, recently still backward, such ships came and, most important, such people....

I'll tell you from where. From the October source.

On a Guided Missile Boat

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Capt-Lt D. Chumak, Red Banner Pacific Fleet: "Missiles Above the Ocean"]

[Text] Leaving a high bubbly wave behind the stern, the boat is swiftly rushing off toward the target. Several more miles, and this closing speed is multiplied ten-fold by the speed of the missiles which have been launched. By that time--there is no doubt, then just wait for the result. But now there still is time. And Senior Lieutenant Grigoriy Balayev is mentally checking what has been done.

Did he select the correct version of the attack? Unfortunately, only its result can provide the answer. But the fact that everything was weighed, that there was no fuss or hurry-scurry, and that the crew immediately understood the commander and functioned as a well adjusted mechanism adds confidence. The commander has a special need for this confidence. Young seamen recently joined the ship. For them the firings were the first test. It is also an important test for him, Senior Lieutenant Balayev. He had not yet been required to accomplish missions of this type: to launch surprise strikes on an "enemy" base.

Battle on the open ocean seems simpler now because it is more customary. But here, crossing a large distance, to be able to occupy the calculated point secretly, select a reliable target, and employ weapons with maximum effectiveness--this does not seem simple at first glance. Therefore, before going out to sea Senior Lieutenant Balayev, assigning the mission to the personnel, made it longer than usual.

The commander paid special attention to the work of the radiometer operators. To recognize a target against the background of a rocky shore under conditions of possible jamming is difficult even for an experienced operator. Seaman Vladimir Annin knew the special features of working under such conditions only from the experience of drills. But the load on them was so great and varied and the commander of the ship had such a demanding attitude toward the working out of the most unusual special situations that the radiometer operators could no longer imagine a situation which would appear unfamiliar to them.

And here on the cruise, despite the difficult weather conditions and the jamming Seaman Annin discovered the "enemy" in time and provided his exact coordinates.

Senior Lieutenant Balayev descends from the bridge to the conning tower. Minutes remain to the firing. This is the most strained time which requires the maximum self-collection and endurance from the commander. At this very moment one must be ready for any complication of the mission. For no "enemy" exists who would wait passively while he is defeated. To withstand counteraction

and be able to accomplish the mission under any conditions--this is what is meant by the commander's firmness when launching a strike.

Here, the attitude of the seamen and their readiness to give all their strength and ability to the accomplishment of the mission are very important. Back in the period of preparation for the firings, in the course of the discussion of the draft of the new Constitution of the USSR, the boat crews gave their word to answer the concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for the strengthening of the country's Armed Forces by soldierly shock work. Now, they were to show the connection of these words with deed, especially since the ship's collective is participating actively in the struggle of the boat crews for the right to be called the best unit in the fleet.

On this cruise, Senior Lieutenant Balayev was very attentive to the behavior and actions of the seamen and drew the conclusion with satisfaction: the crew is ardently interested in obtaining the highest grade and is applying much diligence.

The lids of the hangers are raised. The missiles gleam coldly. Several more seconds--and they are rushing for the shore. What satisfaction the commander experiences from the consciousness that the ship was able to deliver the weapons to the required point, that he, the commander was not late in launching the strike and was able to forestall the "enemy."

Grigoriy Balayev is a young commander and, all in all, still a young officer. But the command evaluates his professional qualities highly. In a short time the senior lieutenant was able to rally the crew and he led it up among the leaders. And this success became possible primarily because the officer was able to win authority on the ship quickly and showed himself to be a competent specialist who is able to work well and who is able to truly value the labor of the seamen.

During combat training, the commander of the ship constantly relied on raising the quality and effectiveness of the lessons. He conducted drills under conditions close to actual combat. It was especially difficult for the boat crew during night exercises and in protective equipment. At first many seamen, and first of all young seamen, did not conform to the norms, became lost, and committed inaccuracies. Then the senior lieutenant recommended to experienced specialists Warrant Officers [michman] Viktor Konovalov and Ivan Dronov that they take the laggards under special control. And the masters of combat qualifications and skillful teachers coped successfully with this matter. They introduced a spirit of competition and healthy rivalry into each drill. The socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October is in high esteem on the ship. Now its slogan has become--not one laggard alongside. Each day the crew knew who is ahead and who must be pulled up and in what. The secretary of the Komsomol organization of the boat, Senior Seaman V. Tokarskiy, was adjudged the best specialist on the ship. Many experienced seamen and petty officers such as, for example, Petty Officers 2d Class A. Zimin and V. Andreas and Seaman V. Annin are working according to the norms of masters of combat qualification.

And the contribution of the highly-rated specialists to today's firing is considerable. The commander values this just as the contribution of each seaman.

The missiles take off into the sky. And now they have become in full measure a formidable force directed by the boat crew to the target.

The young commander does not forget this instant. But even more memorable for Senior Lieutenant Balayev will be the words from the radio message which was received: "Target destroyed with direct hit."

Much stands behind these words: the accomplished mission, excellent grade, the joy of the crew, and most important--its ability to destroy the enemy reliably, that is, with the first missile and a direct hit.

Medical Care Aboard Submarine

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Capt 3d Rank A. Zlydnev, Red Banner Pacific Fleet: "Doctor From a Nuclear Submarine"]

[Text] They call him nothing other than "our doctor." Who was the first to utter these words? Captain of Medical Service Vladimir Kucheryavenko is silent for a minute or so.

Strong sensitive hands lie on the very edge of the table. Illuminated by a faded light, he seems to be resting after an operation. The officer's face is calm. Only the thick eyebrows which come together at the bridge of the nose tell of his deep reverie.

"Who? Khokhlov. Senior Seaman Khokhlov. My first 'underwater' patient. The very first." Kucheryavenko distinguishes the last words by pressure of the voice and smiles widely, brightly so.

Mile after mile, the stem threaded its way on the black swift hull of the nuclear submarine. An "enemy" convoy had been discovered in square "N" and the commander of the submarine received the mission to "destroy" the main target--a missile cruiser. A serious "enemy" and the forthcoming duel would not be easy. Everyone understood this--from the commander to the ship's cook. Therefore, in the central control compartment and in each compartment a special pre-battle atmosphere set in for the determination of whose tension instruments had not yet been invented. Only the heart of an experienced submariner who had participated in an attack many times was able to notice this change of the situation within the compartments.

Kucheryavenko at that time did not possess such experience and he perceived the commander's orders which were flying among the compartments guardedly: is he rising to the occasion in a difficult situation? This long ocean cruise was the first for the young officer. Will he be able to perform the duty of

ship's surgeon? Perform it as they taught him within the walls of the famous Military Medical Order of Lenin, Red Banner Academy imeni S. M. Kirov? He thought that he would be able to although he felt very bad. His temperature had risen, his tooth ached, and his cheek was swollen. And he had to get sick at such an inappropriate moment!

Unexpectedly two men appeared at the threshold of his office.

"Comrade senior lieutenant, I have brought you a patient," reported a warrant officer [michman]. "Senior Seaman Khokhlov."

Red hair adhered to a sweaty brow. The seaman lay down on the couch with difficulty. Kucheryavenko, forgetting about his tooth, bent down over the prone man. He straightened up after a minute or two:

"Instructor, prepare the operating table!"

The surgeon was not yet certain that Khokhlov requires surgical intervention but he had to be ready for anything. Even if there would be no operation, it is a good idea to train the instructor once again to prepare for it quickly. And it is necessary for the aid men to learn to work under difficult cruise conditions.

After a thorough examination, Kucheryavenko was convinced that his diagnosis had been correct: acute appendicitis. He had to operate. Then he reported to the commander:

"Comrade captain 2d rank, on board is a patient with an acute attack of appendicitis. Urgent surgical intervention is required."

He felt as if he were guilty in what had happened. For his report was very inopportune: the duel will begin at any minute, and it is necessary to reduce speed and change the depth to conduct the operation....

The seconds of waiting stretched on interminably. What decision would the commander make? Would he not doubt the accuracy of the diagnosis and the surgeon's knowledge and ability?

"Good," was finally heard over the loudspeaker. "Are you ready for the operation?"

"Yes sir, comrade commander!" Kucheryavenko breathed a sigh of relief.

And then he heard:

"And how do you feel yourself, Vladimir Timofeyevich?" There were concern and alarm in the commander's voice. "Normal? Well, I wish you success in this case."

Completing the operation, the surgeon, as required, reported laconically over the repeater to the commander: "The operation was successful. Senior Seaman Khokhlov feels better...."

He proved to be a real man, this youth from Novosibirsk who is strong as a young oak. He probably knew that this was Kucheryavenko's first "deep water" operation. He also saw the officer's swollen cheek but he calmly trusted the surgeon and remained brave. At the end, he said in a wavering voice: "Thank you, comrade senior lieutenant." And he turned his face toward the bulkhead. Either to hide his eyes from the bright electric light or his tears from Kucheryavenko. When the surgeon went to visit Khokhlov after a while, he automatically attracted the warm glances of the submariners.

The seamen trusted the doctor. And this trust is akin to the confidence of the commander on whose combat skill, mind, and resolve depend the lives of dozens of men. Both in actual battle and on ocean training days.

A cruise, again a cruise. And again. One of them was accomplished on the eve of 1977. What is memorable about this long voyage? The question did not catch Kucheryavenko unawares.

"Two party meetings. At the election meeting I was elected secretary of the party bureau. Somehow it happened unexpectedly.... Then there was another meeting. It was right after receiving a radio message in which the member of the military council and chief of the navy's political directorate, Admiral V. Grishanov, announced that the appeal of our crew--to greet the 60th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner--was approved and supported. And this means that there was a special demand on us, the initiators of the competition, and the crew's responsibility had increased many-fold. All this was also discussed at the party meeting. How else is the cruise memorable? Again--by an operation. The fourth one on the record. And again deep in the water...."

Any surgical intervention is no small risk. Both for the patient and for the surgeon. But when the patient is your friend or relative, you can't think of anything worse! "It seems to be easier to operate on yourself," said Kucheryavenko later, and he recalls his native town of Shardinsk where he made the decision to become a military physician and he remembers his father and a long talk with him.

It was his first leave as a lieutenant. In his ears he still heard the farewell words of the head of the academy and the teachers, the plaintive melancholy rhythms of the traditional farewell march, the cheerful assurances of friends: "We'll meet in the fleets...." In his suitcase next to his diploma lay the oath of a physician of the Soviet Union--a document of lofty moral meaning. His father, Timofey Grigor'yevich, sat behind the comfortable table in his home. He coughed from time to time and continued to question his son, questioned.

Vladimir knew the reason for this cough. A former chief of staff of a regiment and retired captain, Timofey Kucheryavenko had carried fragments from a fascist shell in his lungs for almost 30 years.

"What would they do with me--under the knife! I'm too old," droned the father. "Really, the fragments are not troubling me quickly. As you see, I'm living and working a little...."

Nevertheless, Vladimir insisted on an examination and personally, but now professionally, was convinced that it was risky to operate. The iron fragments were located too close to the aorta.

"But could it be?" he asked himself many times. No, I think, it could not be. It seems that it is easier to operate on myself....

This is what he was thinking at this time when he heard the voice of a friend:

"Volodya, maybe we won't for the present. Let's wait until we reach the base. You understand, there is much to do."

Engineer-Captain-Lieutenant Vasilii Perepechenov did not understand the danger to which he was subjected. But the doctor understood.

"As a friend I say that we have to operate. It is still a long way to the end of the cruise. You'll be back in formation in a week and you will do everything you have to. Shall I report to the commander?"

"Report," Vasilii took a long breath.

The operation proceeded without complications.

Having become secretary of the ship's party organization, Kucheryavenko feels responsible for everything--for the ship's combat readiness and for the solidarity of the military collective. Now the submariners come to him not only with their physical ailments but also with purely everyday problems. In the crew, no one is surprised if the doctor simply comes to the officers and warrant officers at home when the ship is in its home port.

Nor at one time was Engineer-Captain-Lieutenant Mikhail Tal'vik surprised. He mentioned that his daughter was not well and on that same day Kucheryavenko visited the small patient and treated her. And in passing, he noted to himself that the officer's living conditions leave much to be desired. He must be helped. He reported this to the commander of the submarine and the political officer. In the end, they found a way out of the situation and the secretary of the party bureau sent a telegram to Tal'vik who was on leave. He congratulated him on his new home and communicated the address of the new quarters. Fly back, he said, everything is ready. Your things have been moved and everything has been put in order....

Aboard Three Large ASW Ships

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jul 77 p 2

[Excerpts from letters by Capt-Lt V. Yelovskiy, commander of the large ASW ship "Sil'nyy," Capt 2d Rank A. Kosov, commander of the large ASW ship "Marshal Voroshilov," and Capt 3d Rank A. Zhilin, commander of the Guards large ASW ship "Soobrazitel'nyy"]

[Excerpts] On the eve of Navy Day, the crew of the BPK [large antisubmarine warfare ship] "Sil'nyy" accomplished missile firing at an aerial target in a difficult situation although under conditions of a training battle. It was a fast-flying small target. The "enemy" employed active jamming. But nevertheless, the missilemen launched a destructive strike. The fire mission was accomplished excellently.

The majority of our officers are rated specialists, and Senior Lieutenant N. Ambrazhey has become a master. He heads the best signal department in the force. The radio service headed by Captain-Lieutenant O. Simchenko has borne the title of best in the fleet for three years in a row.

Just as in the wartime crew of the "Sil'nyy," the tone in training and competition is set for us by the communists. Such as, for example, officers Ye. Rastvorov, N. Palov, and others. The communists, the leading force in the military collective, were examples of skill, vigilance, and selfless performance of duty on the ocean cruise from which the ship returned not so long ago.

Captain-Lieutenant V. Yelovskiy
commander of the large ASW ship
"Sil'nyy"

Our crew is proud that the large ASW ship on which we are serving bears the name of the famous Soviet military leader, Marshal of the Soviet Union K. Ye. Voroshilov, and is the direct heir to the glory and traditions of the Red Banner cruiser "Voroshilov" which fought heroically with the fascists in the years of the Great Patriotic War.

The solidarity of the crew and its ability can be judged best of all by its deeds. The large ASW ship "Marshal Voroshilov" has to its credit many successful ocean voyages both in the upper and lower latitudes. Long cruises are the best school for the upbringing of the seamen. In the atmosphere of the exacting and interested attitude toward the youth which is inherent to our military collective, as a rule the stage of officer formation proves to be very short. After a year or two the majority of our officers are promoted. And, what is pleasant, good comments about them are arriving from their new places of service. For me, the commander of the ship, a subject of special pride is the fact that several of my pupils have already been entrusted with combat ships. Is it really not good fortune to meet ships at sea which are commanded by your alumni and see that they are already developing independently everything better with which our BPK "Marshal Voroshilov" enriched them?

Thus, the best traditions were always propagated and strengthened in the fleet from heart to heart and from ship to ship.

According to the results of the last training year, our ship was declared the best large ASW ship in the Navy and was awarded the challenge Red Banner of the kraykom of the CPSU and the krayispolkom. In the year of the 60th anniversary of the Great October the Voroshilovites are filled with resolve to retain the leading positions. Our confidence in success is based on the patriotic enthusiasm which reigns in the crew in connection with the discussion of the draft of the new Constitution of the USSR. Pride in our Motherland and loyalty to the traditions of the Fatherland's defenders are stimulating the Voroshilovites for the exemplary accomplishment of their military duty.

Captain 2d Rank A. Kosov, commander of
the large ASW ship "Marshal Voroshilov"

A memorial is being erected on Nakhimov Square in the hero city of Sevastopol' to the defenders of the Black Sea stronghold in 1941-1942. The proud name "Soobrazitel'nyy" has been carved out on a stone among the ships which distinguished themselves the most.

Years have passed. The destroyer has been replaced by a large, modern ASW ship, the "Soobrazitel'nyy."

Its crew is sacredly protecting the memory of the exploits of the seamen of the older generation. Welcome guests are often visitors on the Guards ship--former Guardsmen N. Kushnarenko, S. Vorkov, F. Smirnov, A. Chernyshov, G. Kirichenko, and many others. Young seamen are initiated into the Guardsmen at the memorial plaque to Hero of the Soviet Union V. Khodyrev.

These days, the ship's crew is actively discussing the draft new Constitution of the USSR. All the men ardently approve this historic document and are striving to respond to it by achievements in combat training and competition. Leading in the socialist competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of the Great October is the outstanding torpedo department commanded by Guards Lieutenant Ye. Myrashov.

Guards Captain 3d Rank A. Zhilin,
commander of the Guards large ASW
ship "Soobrazitel'nyy"

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CSO: 1801

CONSTRUCTION TROOPS OFFICER CANDIDATE TRAINING CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Engr Lt Col L. Kulikov: "Officer Candidates in the Role of Excavators"]

[Text] Four letters which reached the editors from one construction site almost simultaneously also proved to be similar in content. Major S. Oleynikov and Warrant Officers [praporshchik] Yu. Dolgoplov, B. Bochkarev, and N. Lobarev wrote that instead of mastering their specialties construction troop officer candidates perform the role of excavators and live under poor living conditions.

I met with the authors of the letters in the construction organization led by officer V. Arnauta. Actually, many construction troop officer candidates here are armed with crowbar and shovel.

But the nub of the question nevertheless is not the number of diggers assigned to dig a communication trench. The essence is that officer candidates from the subunit for training junior specialists for construction sites rather than simply military construction troops step forth in the role of handymen and diggers at construction objects. Instead of training and acquiring firm knowledge or various qualifications, the construction troop officer candidates are sent on missions with the start of spring to those places where the plan is "burning" and where the object is turned over for operation on a crash basis.

I talk with Major Oleynikov, commander of the officer candidate subunit. The officer candidates had only just breakfasted and, with crowbar and shovel on their shoulders, had set out for their trench in a column.

"I don't even know where to begin," says Major Oleynikov. "We seem to be giving important help to the construction project. But, at the same time, having arrived on a detached mission we live like stepchildren. And training? You see, it is actually reduced to naught."

It did not require much work to be convinced of the truth of the officer's words. In the barracks, hastily assembled, there is neither a seriously

equipped Lenin room or administration corner which are so necessary in soldier living.

It was also learned that the officer candidates soap up irregularly in the bath and they have complaints about the mess. The housing adversities are often supplemented by coarseness on the part of the chief of the UNR [administration of the chief of the work], Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel V. Vylgin and Engineer-Major I. Saltanov, who is subordinate to him. Here is what Warrant Officer Yu. Dolgoplov relates:

"They gave us, the platoon leaders, a room in a dormitory with great grief. But only a week later Engineer-Major Saltanov demanded that we give up the room in the dormitory because he had not found a place for other specialists."

The sad story is supplemented by Warrant Officers B. Bochkarev and N. Lobarev. The officer candidates leave the train and trying experiences begin at once. No one meets them and no one is concerned about getting them settled as soon as possible.

"Of course, we military people," says Warrant Officer B. Bochkarev, "should endure all the burdens and deprivations of service steadfastly. But why create difficulties artificially? We could fully get by without them."

Actually, they could. But the supervisors of the construction project, as is evident, are worried about only one thing: to cope with the plan. The price of success has no significance.

In his talk with me the political officer, V. Sherstyuk, complained not about the procedures which had been formed at the construction project but about the fact that three warrant officers and an officer had turned to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA for assistance.

"They write at every opportunity!" he noted gloomily. And he added the following concerning the essence of the matter:

"The problem that the officer candidates are working on the project and are not studying is not our problem. The higher organization decided this. As regards the remainder, all these minor conflicts and confusion can be eliminated even without the interference of the newspaper."

Yes, not such great efforts and expenditures are needed to create normal working and rest conditions for people. But for some reason, the supervisors of the construction project overlooked the needs and requirements of the officer candidates who were on detached service.

And meanwhile, the officer candidates are accomplishing large volumes of work and helping the contractor organizations out of a difficult situation.

To my question of just what caused the necessity to separate people from training the deputy chief of the higher construction organization, Engineer-Major

General S. Baranov answered that they are forced to do this due to a shortage of workers. And he explained that in accordance with the concept the officer candidates at the construction projects should obtain practical skills in their profession and not simply accomplish unskilled labor.

Concept is concept but actually the matter is quite different.

As a rule, the future specialists are separated from lessons for almost the entire training period due to someone's lack of organization which placed the accomplishment of the plan under threat. In pulling one construction project or another out of a breach today, the supervisors of the construction inevitably do tomorrow a bad turn because a specialist who practices digging trenches will not succeed in becoming a specialist during the time of instruction and subsequently works in an unqualified manner, with low quality. An even greater evil is loss of morale: the military builder who is actually equipped only with a crowbar and shovel suddenly receives the qualification, let us say, of a second class electrician. Sad thoughts overcome the soldier after such "joy." Concerning the same Comrade V. Arnauta, tomorrow he will arrive at the construction project with a certificate of rated specialist in his pocket and will not be able to cope with the task assigned him.

It remains to be added to what has been said that in the training subunit headed by Engineer-Lieutenant Colonel N. Klimenchenko there is a substantial training material base and classrooms and shops equipped in a modern manner by the masters and teachers themselves. The methodological aids, textbooks, programs---these are also the product of their hands and minds. The barracks and training building are comfortable. Learn, military builder, all conditions for this have been created!

But...the training classrooms are empty.

"What is done good is done twice" is a good everyday rule. Unfortunately, the training of the military construction officer candidates is organized according to a different rule. It is believed that the senior commander and the higher political organ will give these facts a fundamental evaluation and eliminate effectively the shortcomings in the matter of training junior specialists for military construction projects.

6367
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MOTORIZED INFANTRY COMBAT TRAINING METHODS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Col M. Kazakov, chief of department for party organizational work, political directorate of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "Comprehensive Support of Initiative"]

[Text] The silence over the desert was broken by the beckoning sound of the alarm. The crews of the infantry combat vehicles quickly began to load the ammunition and take their places behind the sights and control levers. "Attention!" the loudspeaker thundered over the shooting range. "Attention! The exercise of the Firing Course is being accomplished by the secretary of the party organization of the 1st Battalion, Senior Lieutenant Kuksa, who is participating in the competition for the right to be awarded the pennant named for our hero-brother soldier, Private Petr Vagayev."

Roaring their engines, the combat vehicles tore off into the pitch-dark night. Soon its darkness was pierced by machinegun tracers, the fire of cannon flashed....

Before riding out to the range we talked with a member of the party committee of the motorized rifle regiment, Major N. Potkin. The discussion concerned the activity of the communists and Komsomols in the socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Great October which had been initiated in the Armed Forces with the start of the training year and about the contribution which the unit collective had already made to the struggle to be the leading large unit.

Many useful undertakings were born in the channel of this broad movement in the regiment. The overwhelming portion of them were directed toward raising the quality in working out the combat-training norms and the effectiveness of the entire training process. But, unfortunately, there also were initiatives whose usefulness is extremely doubtful. They originated, as a rule, in the quiet of offices. Then they disappeared without a trace, thereby proving their lack of vitality.

The valuable undertakings of the Turkestan soldiers were considered at a meeting of the district's party activists where a discussion on the further

development of socialist competition took place and the valuable undertakings of the Turkestan soldiers were considered. For example, the signalmen are struggling to perform their combat duty in the anniversary year only with a grade of "excellent." The men of the N-th Tank Regiment, the initiators of the competition in the district, have the slogan, "Drive and shoot at night only in accordance with daytime standards."

The decisions of the May (1977) Plenum of the Central Committee CPSU, the results of the work of the 6th session of the Supreme Soviet USSR, and the nationwide discussion of the draft Constitution of the USSR raised the activity and initiative of the people to an even higher level. And this is enriching the competition with new experience and contributing to the improvement in the forms and methods of its organization. The district's commanders and party and Komsomol organizations are using the creative burst and initiative of the men skillfully and efficiently to increase the effectiveness of the competition and its role in the political and military indoctrination of the personnel. All this is having a tangible influence on the effectiveness and quality of training, on the improvement of the forms and methods for working out training tasks and combat norms, and on the combat solidarity of the units and subunits.

The range.... A strained and elevated situation is reigning here.

"Attention!" the already familiar radio voice is heard. "Senior Lieutenant Valeriy Kuksa has accomplished the firing exercise with a grade of 'excellent.' The norm has been exceeded. Three rounds were saved...."

What did I like in this regiment? The wide publicity of the socialist competition and the comparability of its results. Here, they know who is the best shooter and driver-mechanic, whose company is ahead, and what that is new has been thought up in the subunit to bypass the competitors. Here such concepts as "experiment," "record," "norm," and others are in style.

Soon after the publication of the decree of the Central Committee CPSU, "On the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution," I dropped in on the secretary of the party committee. Senior Lieutenant V. Natalich, and told him that the Komsomols of the 1st Battalion at a meeting which had just taken place expressed the desire to compete for the right to be awarded the pennant named for hero-fellow soldier Private Vagayev. The young communist was interested: what is the attitude toward this in the party committee?

The next day, the secretary of the party committee called an unscheduled meeting. The information was provided by Communist Natalich. He stressed that the men had decided to answer the party's call to mark the 60th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner with a specific deed.

The suggestion of the Komsomols caused a heated discussion. Of course, there were fine points here and they were discussed, strictly weighing each opinion. As a result, they came to the conviction: to support the initiative of the Komsomols. The initiative was approved and occupied a significant place in the competition and in the life of the collective.

Then they had a preliminary discussion of the conditions for the initiative and they submitted a proposal to the commander to institute a challenge pennant and award it to a comrade who had distinguished himself. In which regard, this was to be done in a ceremonial situation, in the large unit's museum of combat glory. The suggestion was submitted for discussion by the regimental party meeting which was devoted to the decree of the Central Committee CPSU on the 60th anniversary of the Great October. Here it was also heard in the decision by a separate paragraph.

The right to compete for a pennant named for a hero is a lofty honor. And a lofty responsibility. The sign of the initiative must now be held high. It is not by chance that the deputy regimental commander for political affairs immediately "ordered" himself to the motorized rifle company commanded by Senior Lieutenant A. Dekhkambayev: here the matter of firing training is somewhat poorer than in the others, and the political officer is the best gunner among the officers of the regiment and the entire large unit.

The staff officers and chiefs of services of the unit harmoniously followed this example. Thus the officers of the regiment found their place in the mass initiative. The initiative "worked" and gave rise to a good attitude and...a new experience. Thus, communists V. Kuksa and K. Yuferov--a motorized rifleman and tanker--assumed the obligation to achieve the coordination of crews of combat vehicles which, during the conduct of fire, will provide a reduction in the normative time by a third and the same amount of ammunition saved. This was an experiment which assumed some kind of record. But it is not for the sake of a record that the battalion's secretary of the party bureau, Communist V. Kuksa, is striving for this. He successfully transferred the entire "technology of exceeding the norm" to the motorized rifle soldiers.

And the members of the party committee are continuing, as they say, to keep their fingers on the pulse of the competition. Then a new proposal arose: to be interested in at what cost the pennant is won. The communists did not want to commit indulgences in the striving for a high result and, in the heat of the struggle, to find easy ways. Therefore, it was decided that each member of the party committee must visit the rifle range and tank driving ground. A special schedule was drawn up.

What is the practical value in this? For example, Major V. Levchenko saw that while driving the driver-mechanics of the tanks of one of the companies are making stops on steep rises which are not envisioned by the instructions. Clearly, the high result attained at a cost of violations has unpleasant consequences. A fundamental discussion took place. The company commander said with resentment: for the sake of a good goal, he says, we are striving and really, our neighbors are doing the same thing. Well, the person did not understand at first. And then, several days later after Major V. Levchenko examined everything in detail, communist Senior Lieutenant G. Vorob'yev was heard at a session of the party committee. All the officers of the unit were informed about the content of the discussion.

All this, of course, tells us that the unit's party organization is actively influencing the course of training and the competition. Nor can we remain silent about the errors committed by the party committee. One of them was expressed in the fact that both the secretary and the members of the party committee, in helping to realize the ideas of the initiatives, devoted more attention to the motorized riflemen, tankers, and artillerymen. As regards the special subunits, here considerable formalism was discovered in the organization of the competition. And hence--poor results in combat training. What is the reason? Well, it is the fact that the party committee also submitted to the tendency which still survives to divide the subunits into those which "fight" and those which "support." It turns out that less attention can also be devoted to the latter. Of course, the members of the party committee understood their mistakes. Much has already been straightened out. However, how much precious time was lost!

...It was raining, which is rare for these hot places. The rounds from the tank guns sounded deafeningly. Here the next combat vehicle returned from the moving-target gunnery range. Dismounting from it, the crew formed up for a critique. Slanting streams cut across their faces. And the gunner, Private I. Trifonyuk, brushing the drops of rain from his face, smiled. Of course, today he received a "five" for the first time for firing with the authorized round. But just two months ago he was just average. I ask the commander: who helped Trifonyuk? But the soldier answered himself:

"Helped--that is not the word: Junior Sergeant Matveyev and Private Mirzayev worked with me for two months without interruption...."

And this, heard from the mouth of the soldier, has by no means a chance relation to the unit's party and Komsomol committees. By their joint efforts one more direction in the work was made more active: "There are no laggards alongside the expert." To the honor of the Komsomols, they conducted their work in a combat manner, in a youthful manner. Now the laggards in the regiment are few. But the time requires a new qualitative leap forward. And the members of the party committee understand this. They understand that it is necessary not only to wait for the appearance of a new initiative but also, figuratively speaking, to program it in accordance with the unit's urgent tasks.

On the firing grounds, ranges, and tank driving grounds--it is the hot time of the summer training (and for us, in the direct meaning). The party organizations will do everything so that this stage will also be covered successfully and so that the obligations in the competition for a worthy greeting for the 60th anniversary of October will be completely accomplished.

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SERVICEMEN'S SWIMMING INSTRUCTION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 77 p 4

[Article by Col I. Dudarev, Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, and Lt Col Yu. Semenov, Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences: "Firm Swimming Abilities for Each Serviceman"]

[Text] The situation required the immediate assault crossing of the Neman. Private M. Voloshin was one of the first to volunteer to accomplish the mission. Making something like a raft from logs, he swam across the river noiselessly under the cover of fire from a mortar battery. The fascists discovered the valiant soldier when he had already made fast on the opposite bank. In the battle which was initiated, while other men floated across Voloshin destroyed up to 10 Hitlerites and threw grenades at a machinegun nest. For this exploit, M. Voloshin was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

The Great Patriotic War also knows many other examples where the bold actions when crossing water obstacles and good swimming training ensured success in battle. And today, the men are required to be able to force water obstacles using field expedients and without them, in uniform and with weapons, and to orient themselves in the course of a crossing on a dark night and under enemy fire. In short, the significance of swimming training for the soldier, seaman, and officer is great.

However, there are still cases where work on lessons for teaching the men swimming is replaced by regular bathing. As control checks show, in those subunits where this occurs some of the men stay on the water with difficulty and they are unfamiliar with the procedures for rescuing those who have drowned and rendering first aid. It was awkward for Captain V. Rudakov and Senior Lieutenant M. Smirnov when more than 20 percent of the men subordinate to them could not finish the 100-meter distance. Among them were Private V. Ryabyy and Private M. Bakarov who already had a year of service behind them, Private G. Ismailov who was called up to the army a year and a half ago, and, what is most surprising, Private S. Bobak who is ready for release to the reserve.

Why is this possible? We will try to examine the reasons for the poor swimming training of some of the men.

It is paradoxical, but it often happens that even in the case where one out of every five men does not conform to the swimming standard the subunit is given a positive grade in physical training all the same. Where is the logic? In our opinion, the weight of the swimming grade should be increased. It is impermissible that a soldier who is unable to swim can obtain an overall satisfactory grade for physical training.

On the other hand, an insufficient number of swimming pools, and especially small baths, affect the quality of instruction. In this regard, we are discussing not the construction of permanent, expensive complexes--this is actually beyond the capabilities of the units. But very simple pools of optimum depth--collapsible, covered with canvas or film, and equipped with special trainers and accessories. What is even more important, plans of such pools are available.

Very much depends on the quality of conduct of the swimming lessons. But, unfortunately, they do not always take place on a high level. This occurs especially when they are conducted by young officers--recent graduates of the military schools. They usually do not have sufficient methodological knowledge; they are not familiar with the special devices with the aid of which after only seven or eight hours of lessons a person who was absolutely unable to swim masters the necessary technique and begins to keep himself on the water more or less passably. It is obvious that not enough attention is devoted to this important problem in some military educational institutions.

Duffle bags or other supporting means filled with buoyant materials are still rarely used in the units during instruction. But you see, this permits the more effective conduct of the lessons in the small units.

The matter is more difficult where the men must learn to swim in uniform and with weapons. This is difficult even for well-trained people. But even here, it is possible to get rid of any surprises in the water if individual rescue means are introduced into practice more actively. They reliably keep a soldier on the water and do not hamper him in employing combat procedures and actions. Even one lesson with such means is sufficient for the soldiers to move on the water with weapons confidently. But such lessons are infrequently organized.

Mastery of abilities to force water obstacles and the ability to swim well are an important factor in the combat readiness of the subunits and they must not be forgotten.

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YOUNG OFFICER TRAINING STRESSES PROPER TREATMENT OF SUBORDINATES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 2

[Article by Maj A. Lesovoy: "Not From the First Impression"]

[Text] In this letter I should like to share my thoughts on a question which is disturbing me. Each year, lieutenants who are graduates of the military schools come to us as they do to other subunits and units. Ahead of them is difficult but interesting service, the joy of learning new things, and the comprehension of the experience of their senior comrades. And we, the senior officers, willingly share our knowledge and skills with the youth.

Of course, the youth should learn primarily from positive experience. But, it is believed they must also be put on guard against possible errors. And how is this done? Of course, by telling them about our own errors which were committed in the years of our officer youth and about the errors of their comrades. By telling frankly, in a confidential tone and leading the lieutenants to the correct estimates and conclusions.

In my opinion, it is especially important to teach the lieutenants mutual relations with subordinates as prescribed by the regulations. Errors are especially undesirable here and it is necessary to pay dearly for them.

Years have passed, and this case can already be called old, but I cannot strike it from my memory and the bitter taste, remaining in my heart, makes itself felt every once in a while. One day I, a young officer, returned from competitions for first place in the unit with a group of the best radiotelegraphers in the company. The spirit was gloomy: we occupied last place. Were we poorly prepared? If that had been the case, perhaps I would have suffered less. But you see, we drilled conscientiously.

Why did we show such a poor result? I was convinced: it was not our fault. The fact is that insufficient preparation of the materiel was revealed in the course of the competitions. Therefore, I considered it necessary to protest the results of the competitions. The chairman of the commission promised to investigate everything and report his decision.

But while the case was being settled, today I had to report to the company commander about the results of the competitions. I walked toward him thinking of what to say and how. But my explanations probably came out not very clearly and convincingly. In any case, the captain did not listen to the end and interrupted me with the question:

"Tell me, finally, what place did you win?"

"Last....," I forced myself to say.

"Well, that is what I wanted to hear," the company commander's voice suddenly began to ring from anger. "This means that you prepared for the competitions carelessly and did not justify confidence.... You must answer for this!"

On the spot he announced my punishment for poor training of the radiotelegraphers. Sergeant A. Mikhalev and Private First Class B. Semin, first-class specialists, also caught it from the commander.

But subsequently events developed as follows. The unit commander made the decision to conduct the competitions again. I travelled to the competitions with the section, and in my head was a constant thought: would not the excitement after everything that had happened let the radiotelegraphers down? But they showed themselves brilliantly. We won a prize-winning place....

The company commander lifted my punishment but for a long time I still sensed a prejudiced attitude toward me. And not only me. Let us say, he considered Private Semin an obstinate, quarrelsome person who had a negative influence on his fellow servicemen. In actual fact, Semin was one of the best men and was distinguished by a high state of discipline, inquisitiveness, and initiative. Why did the captain evaluate him so erroneously? It turns out that on one of the lessons which he conducted, Semin asked a question which seemed to the company commander to be tricky and allegedly intended to undermine his authority.

Subsequently, the unit commander and his deputy for political affairs corrected our company commander. He was strictly criticized at a party meeting for coarse errors in the study and indoctrination of people. It was necessary for him to change his work style and get rid of the shortcomings which had been noted.

Yes, a biased attitude contradicts the spirit of our regulations. A chief whose attitude toward a subordinate is one with bias distinguishes only the shady aspects in his character and behavior or overestimates his good qualities and tries to pass the desired as reality. In practice, both lead to an incorrect tone in interrelations and to the chief's erroneous selection of ways and means to indoctrinate subordinates.

How can such errors be avoided in work? The main thing, of course, is a deeper study of the individual qualities of subordinates and, in any case, not to judge them from the first impression. I drew this conclusion later but at

first, when I became a subunit commander myself, I did not avoid errors in my work, either. I remember, Junior Sergeant N. Saykin made an exceptionally good impression on me. Namely how? By his activity: he spoke at almost every Komsomol meeting and sergeants' conference. By his smart appearance and self-collection--he wore his uniform well, handsomely, and it seemed that he was ready to accomplish the most difficult mission at any moment. And I entrusted such missions to him and praised and rewarded him. On my application, he was awarded the rank of sergeant and was appointed to the duty of subunit first sergeant.

But then, one day Saykin committed a disciplinary delinquency. It would be necessary to thoroughly investigate everything and provide an evaluation of what had happened based on principle, and I decided that the person simply fell down. Moreover, he assured me that this would not happen again. And I restricted myself to merely reprimanding Saykin.

Soon Saykin committed one more violation, and after it--another.... It was necessary to adopt the sternest measures. This was a severe lesson for me, a young commander-teacher.

Thus, a chief's judgement of a subordinate should be objective and based on a complete and precise consideration of his service activity and behavior in the collective and in private life. Since that time, I have adopted a rule: before evaluating and describing a subordinate, always to consult with my assistants and party and Komsomol activists. And of course, knowledge of military psychology and pedagogy is very helpful in avoiding "pitfalls" in indoctrinational work with people.

I always tell young officers about this so that they do not repeat such mistakes.

6367

CSO: 1801

ACTIONS TAKEN ON LETTERS TO EDITOR

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Jul 77 p 2

[Article: "Measures Adopted on Readers' Signals"; original paragraphing not followed]

[Text] The commander of the unit in which Private Petryakov serves sent a letter to the editors with a request to render assistance in providing the soldier's parents with fuel. The letter was sent to the Yakovlevskiy rayispolkom of Primorskiy kray. The chairman of the ispolkom, Comrade Tomilenko, informed the editors that by the decision of the management of the Krasnyy partizan kolkhoz firewood and coal have been allotted to the soldier's parents.

Wearer of three degrees of the Order of Glory Luchnikov wrote about the inattentive attitude of local organs of authority toward him and requested assistance in completing the building of a house. The letter was sent to the Belgorodskiy obkom of the CPSU. The secretary of the CPSU obkom, Comrade Sobolev, reported that Comrade Luchnikov's request had been satisfied. The management of the kolkhoz imeni Zhdanova advanced him money and construction materials and is assisting in the building of the house.

A letter from Junior Sergeant Mosyakov which was addressed to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA told about the poor quality of food preparation and several other shortcomings in organizing the feeding of the personnel. The chief of the department of subsistence supply of the Moscow Military District, Colonel Tesëlkin, reported that the facts were confirmed during a check. The poor monitoring of food preparation and the organization of the men's feeding was indicated to the command of the troop unit. All the indicated shortcomings have been eliminated.

Military construction men Makeyev, Shipov, and Satinkov reported that money was illegally withheld from their pay for this January to pay off the debts of other military construction personnel. The chief of the finance and accounting department, Lieutenant Colonel of Quartermaster Service Novozhilov, informed the editors that the illegally withheld money has been returned to the military construction personnel.

The wife of active-duty serviceman Degtyarev appealed to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA with the complaint that she cannot place her child in a kindergarten and about poor housing conditions. The editors sent the letter to the ispolkom of the Khabarovsk city council of workers' deputies. The deputy chairman of the gorispolkom, Comrade Panchenko, reported that the Degtyarev child has been placed in a kindergarten. The enterprise at which she works has placed her on the list for obtaining dwelling space.

Serviceman Marinyuk wrote the editors about coarseness and the nonmilitary way in which Captain Lavretskiy addresses his subordinates. As the political directorate of the military construction units reported to us, the facts set forth in the letter actually took place. Captain Lavretskiy was warned about incomplete official compliance. He was strictly reprimanded through party channels and an entry was made in his record card.

Private Fedorov was adjudged unsuitable for military service and released to the reserve. Taking into consideration the state of Private Fedorov's health, the unit command should have sent him to the place of his parents' residence in Chuvash ASSR. However, they released the soldier to his place of call-up--to Saratovskaya oblast. Major Tsybalyuk wrote the editors about this. The letter was sent to the political directorate of the military construction units. The first deputy chief of the political directorate, Major General A. Aleksandrov, reported that for formalism in the release of Private Fedorov to the reserve the commander of the troop unit and the chief of staff were disciplined.

6367

CSO: 1801

CAPABILITIES OF SOVIET NAVY DISCUSSED

Frankfurt/Main SOLDAT UND TECHNIK in German No 7, Jul 77 pp 356-360 and No 8, Aug 77 pp 412-415, 418-419

[Article by Siegfried Breyer: "The Soviet Navy Today -- On New and Modernized Warships"]

[No 7 Jul 77 pp 356-360]

[Text] For almost two decades SOLDAT UND TECHNIK has followed the development of armed forces and weapon systems in the communist world and especially in the Soviet Union. When we first started reporting, the Soviet Navy was still at the initial point of its reconstruction whereas the Soviet Army was at the peak of its power. At the time -- toward the end of the 1950's -- a remarkable change of military political ideas began. For decades the power political efforts of the Soviets were expressed in a continual framework of thought. This changed under the new naval leadership of Fleet Admiral Gorshkov. The most visible external sign of this was increasingly new warship types. Anyone who followed SOLDAT UND TECHNIK carefully or now reads collected years of issues can follow this development like a red thread. The report below follows the article "Soviet Union Has The Numerically Largest Fleet" in issue 5/75 and has the goal of providing information on all new and modernized warship types of the Soviet Navy known to date. In this connection we refer to our article on the navy under the leadership of Admiral Gorshkov in issue 8/76. It makes the present naval strategic and armament political concept, which is closely connected with its present warship construction, of the Soviet Navy clear.

The year was extremely successful for the Soviet Navy:

- It was able to put its first aircraft carrier, the Kiev, into service.
- Improved submarine types (Charlie-II and Victor-II) went into service.

- With the Ropucha class the amphibious force received a new, high performance type of landing ship.
- A number of small warships were put into service.
- The logistical capabilities of the navy were expanded with new auxiliary ships.

This trend continued in 1976. After a shakedown cruise of a year the Kiev, evidently operationally ready, was able to leave the Black Sea. A new variant of the obviously very successful guided missile destroyer type came with the Krivak-II class. A ballistic missile with a MIRV warhead was launched from a submarine for the first time.

It would thus seem that the future of the Soviet Navy is preprogrammed. Its strategic nuclear component will, as a result of the SALT agreements, grow not so much in the number of units as in the capability of striking more targets at greater ranges with greater accuracy and even greater destructive energy than hitherto possible. Progress will also be made in tactical operations. This is to be expected particularly in antisubmarine warfare [ASW] which can now, with the help of ASW carriers of the Kiev class, be shifted from home coastal waters to the high seas. It goes without saying that ASW in the local areas will not be neglected. And finally its combat potential in surrounding waters will also increase with amphibious forces being given ever increasing significance, particularly in the Baltic area. The future result will be that the combat power of the Red Navy will, in its growth, match that of the growth of the Soviet ground and air forces. The Soviet Union continues to firmly follow the goal of rising to the status of a global sea power. It has been, parallel to this for many years, the goal of Soviet foreign policy to decisively improve the forward bases for their sea operations by gaining new bases. These efforts have already borne fruit and there are many indications that the Soviets will be able to gain more air and naval bases in the near future.

Aircraft Carriers

We have already reported in detail about the Kiev, the first Soviet aircraft carrier, in issues 11 and 12/76 and thus a further description is not necessary here. It remains only to expound on certain points about which there is now somewhat more clarity than existed before.

A British source¹ has considerably increased the dimensions of Kiev. An overall length of 285.30 meters, a maximum hull width of 41.10 meters (maximum flight deck width of 51.50 meters) and a draft of 9.10 meters (10 meters maximum) have been established, the operational displacement estimated at 55,800 tons (for a draft of 9.10 meters and, with excesses, even 62,000 tons (draft then being 10 meters).

¹Hewish Dodgson, "Kiev, The World's Most Heavily Armed Ship," FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 6 November 1976, p. 1356; idem, "Kiev — Another Look at the Vessel and Her Weapon Fit," MARITIME DEFENSE INTERNATIONAL, Vol 1, No 4176, p. 100ff.

Both aircraft elevators have the same length but width differs in that the aft one is only half the size of the other which is located to the side of the funnel. The most forward elevator has a somewhat smaller surface and may serve primarily for the tractors used to maneuver individual aircraft and helicopters in the hangar deck and on the flight deck. Another three smaller elevators, probably used to move munitions and equipment, can also be mentioned. These are arranged in a row in the second trackway which branches off from the trackway running all the way aft from behind the island superstructure.

As regards the supposed dock area, the tendency now is to assume that this opening is used only to accept especially bulky equipment (one should primarily consider the SS-N-12 missile!). This thesis is supported by the fact that there is the opening of a small elevator, measuring about 6 meters long by 1.50 meters wide, exactly overhead on the flight deck, thus apparently connecting the cargo hold to the hangar deck and then to the flight deck. If this supposition is true, it means that the equipment to be received — such as the SS-N-12 missile (but disassembled in at least two parts!) — is brought up by water, transported through the stern opening and then from there with the cargo elevator to the hangar deck or flight deck and from there to the launch containers. It can be said against this theory, however, that receiving this equipment would be just as possible and also certainly simpler by using the available cranes and following the reverse path — from the flight deck to below. On the other hand, it is also considered possible that large locating buoys, to intensify the tracking of submarines, are stored in this area.

As regards the steam turbines with wheel drive, the British experts make the objection that the Soviets could equally well as have picked a powerplant consisting of six Kuznetsov NK-144 gas turbines as their performance — about 212,000 hp — suggests an estimated top speed of a good 33 knots. In this connection a British publication² mentions the portside opening on the stern. It is considered possible that, instead of the previously suspected trash burner here, there is a test stand in this area for an aircraft engine which is possibly to be "navalized."

What looked like a loading hatch all the way forward on the port side deck now also seems to be explained. A photograph shows the Kiev not only with open VDS [variable depth sonar] ports but also with an obviously open hatch whose lid is propped open at an angle of 90 degrees. Because this hatch is located almost all the way forward in the overhang area of the hull and there is not really any room under it for a normal cargo hold, it is conceivable that, when open, other electronics — perhaps this or the guidance devices for the SS-N-12 missiles (for which no appropriate equipment has hitherto been established!) — are cleared. This would have the advantage of an undoubtedly secure arrangement against external influences, apart from short interruptions during a missile operation.

²Hewish Dodgson, "Kiev — The World's Most Heavily Armed Ship," FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 6 November 1976, p. 1356.

Guided Missile Cruisers

The Vice Admiral Drozhd of the Kresta-I class was modernized from 1972 to 1974. Figure 2 [not reproduced] shows her as she now appears. It is immediately apparent that the deep hole between the bridge superstructure and the turret mast has been closed. Apparently there was a certain space requirement for special command installations and this was accommodated by a deck house fitted exactly in. At the same time the air defense components have been increased. Automatic antiaircraft weapons installations, each consisting of two units with each having a six-barrel 23mm cannon for a total of four, have been mounted on both sides of the turret mast. Bass Tilt antiaircraft fire control gear has been mounted on each of the bridge arms. In association with this, on both sides of the turret mast the lowest Side Globe sensor has been moved so that it is now between sensors Nr 2 and Nr 3 but somewhat behind them. It has not yet been disclosed if other ships of this class have been modernized in the same or a similar fashion. Perhaps some consideration has been given in the meantime to replacing the aged SS-N-3 weapon system with another one which, however, would necessitate extensive changes. It therefore cannot be excluded that, for the other ships of this class, such a "small" modernization will be rejected and instead wait until the time is ripe for a guided missile reequipment in which all work could be accomplished in one process.

The Kresta-II class has expanded to nine, possibly even ten, units since nine names can be established with certainty and a tenth with some restrictions. There can be various reasons for construction of the Kresta-II class continuing despite the construction of the Kara class. The most probable is that manufacturing has been advanced to the point that continued construction is dictated. In this case it must be considered that the construction of this class is concentrated at a single yard — the Zhdanov Yard in Leningrad — whereas the Kara class is built exclusively in Nikolayev.

The most recent information also indicates that the Kresta-II is equipped not with the SS-N-10 guided missile weapon system but rather with the SS-N-14 guided missile weapon system which³ is used against submarines but can also be used against surface targets. The French naval handbook "Flottes de Combat 1976" gives this weapon a maximum range of 20 nautical miles whereas "Jane's Fighting Ships" indicates 25 nautical miles and the American source already cited even gives 30 nautical miles.⁴ Thus these units — and this applies by analogy also to the Kara class which was previously considered to definitely have the SS-N-10 guided missile — are not missile cruisers in the sense of the Kynda class but rather that which the Soviets have always called them: "bolshoy protivolodochniy korabl"

³Robinson jr, "USSR Submarines Pose Heavy Threat," AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY, 24 January 1977, p. 35ff.

⁴Ibid.

or large ASW ships. In contrast to the Kara class, the Kresta-II ships are at a disadvantage due to the lack of a variable depth sonar. It remains to be seen if this will be corrected in the future. In terms of space and area, adding such a device would hardly present any problems.

Five Kara units have now been reported and the names of four are known. In addition to the Nikolayev which has been in service since 1973, they are the Ochakov, Kerch and Azov. In this connection "Jane's Fighting Ships 1976-77" reports that this class from Azov on is being built according to a modified design but does not indicate in which respect this is done. Azov has not yet appeared and thus this question must remain open. What applies to the Kresta-II class also applies to Kara class. Since the SS-N-14 ASW missile and not the SS-N-10 is carried, the corresponding installations must be the same for both classes. On the NATO side it is now generally doubted that anything other than the SS-N-14 was ever on the Kresta-II and Kara.

Guided Missile Destroyers

In the Kildin class two further units, the Bedovyy and Prozorlivyy, both rebuilt according to the design of the Neulovimyy which reappeared in the fall of 1973 following a lengthy rebuilding, have appeared and thus only Neuderzhimyy is left (it is possible that her rebuilding has already begun). As was the case before, Bedovyy still differs from her sister ships first by the stubborn retention of the original Kotlin funnel, secondly by the different structure of the forward mast which — in contrast to Neulovyy — is equipped not with a Head Net C radar but rather with two opposed Strut Curve antenna housings which NATO is now calling Strut Pair. Bedovyy also retains the quad 45mm AAA mounts whereas her sister ships carry the same guns in 57mm. These ships now called the Kildin-mod class have also received four launchers for ship-to-ship guided missiles, these being a modified Styx first called SS-N-11 by NATO and finally SS-N-26. The range is 29 nautical miles (23 for the SS-N-2a).

In the Krupny class only the Gordyy is still in its original state but it is reckoned that she will also follow the path of her sister ships to the Kanin class or already be on the way. The Kanin class comprises seven units which have rejoined the fleet after an average rebuilding period of two years. What they — all now being called large ASW ships — lack is the variable depth sonar which is standard equipment on all the newer classes of this branch. It is thus quite possible that all Kanin units will again be modified and gain such a VDS system — which should not pose any problems in terms of space or area.

The modernization of the Kashin class to the Kashin-mod variant continues to progress and the sixth reworked ship has already been sighted.⁵ That

⁵ See "Evolution of the Soviet Kashin Class," SOLDAT UND TECHNIK, 4/75, pp. 194-195.

said about the ship-to-ship weapon system of the Kildin-mod class also applies to the Kashin-mod class. The reequipment did not — as it first seemed — involve installation of the 30mm L/65 twin AAA guns in operation since the early 1960's but rather the new 30mm sextuple automatic AAA weapons. Figures 4 and 5 [not reproduced] show their arrangement and the corresponding Bass Tilt fire control unit, evidently a further development of the Drum Tilt belonging to the 30mm automatic weapons.

There is also something new with the Krivak class. A design change has appeared from the thirteenth ship on and this has resulted in a slight increase in hull size. This was evidently to accomodate an improved VDS system which probably exceeded the old dimensions of the hull and also could not be swung forward and the hull had to be lengthened in the stern by about 3 meters. Based on available weights and dimensions of the Krivak class in its original form (now called Krivak-I class), a weight increase of 70 tons in type displacement and 90 tons in operational displacement can be computed. In the meantime two units of this class, called the Krivak-II class by NATO, are already in service and others will very probably follow. The lengthening of the hull in this case is barely noticeable but it can be seen that the VDS container is somewhat higher in its first third than on the Krivak-I class. But something else catches the eye. These units have received guns of a new model. The turrets equipped with two 76mm tubes have been retained but these now have only a single gun. American experts suspect the gun to be 130mm but other knowledgeable sources assume a smaller caliber — about 100mm — and this seems more realistic. It is, in any case, larger than 76mm as otherwise the same number of tubes per turret would have been retained. It is almost certainly not a mistake to assume that this is a dual purpose gun with a high rate of fire and for this reason a size of 100mm is more likely than 130mm.

It is also noticeable that the rear of the two turrets is mounted higher than on Krivak-I. A possible explanation is that the turret superstructure with magazine and ammunition transporters requires a greater vertical space than the 76mm turrets on the Krivak-I. And the entire turret system is possibly "containerized" and the resultant dimensions may not have left any choice other than the high mounting of the turret. Everything else on the Krivak-II has remained the same as on its predecessor — no new or additional electronics, no other new weapon systems and no change in the superstructures or their sequence. In order to tell the two variants apart, one must exercise some attentiveness — and the greater the distance to the observer, the more difficult it will be.

Among the conventional destroyers the lone wolf Neustrashimyy — NATO code-name Tallinn class — has been out of service for some time. Since a modernization would not be worth it (the ship having been in service for 20 years), it can be assumed that it will be scrapped in the near future if not used for a target ship or the like. It was, in any case, not a successful design and thus its removal would not present any special problems.

Frigates

A newly recognized variant of the aged Riga class shows changes which most likely point to ECM or SIGINT/ELINT missions.⁶ This refers to the variant on which a cabin with a compact tripod lattice mast carrying several rod-shaped antennas has been mounted on the forward part of the island-like deck superstructure behind the torpedo tubes. At the same time the topmast of the forward mast has been raised and more antennas mounted on it. Exactly underneath the forward mast an apparently — this has not been definitely established — protected or closed space has been created by enclosing the lower area of the mast on the sides and top. The space thus created is probably used to house electronics and communications equipment. Nothing has been changed in the armament on this variant. The two MBU-2500 ASW rocket launchers have not been removed nor have additional 25mm twin AAA guns been added as has often been the case on other Riga units.

Since the Petya and Mirka class frigates were described in detail in our publication (issue 8/73), both types have received improved submarine locating capabilities. A modified variant of the Petya-I class has been newly recognized. A superstructure about 12 meters long, as wide as the deck and with a cut stern has been mounted aft and the VDS system is housed in this. This is indicated by the now typical flap in the stern. This swings up to release the device just as with the Krivak model and other types. This variant — temporarily called Petya-III and finally designated Petya-I mod — was first noted in 1973. In contrast to some already observed single units with VDS installed freely on the upper deck — already reported in issue 8/73 —, on the Petya-I mod class the aft 76mm turret did not have to go. Only the two ASW rocket launcher groups had to be removed. It is almost certain that other units of the Petya-I class (and then possibly also the Petya-II class) will be modernized in the same way. At present the rebuilding quota is estimated at two to three units per year. Measured against the present 13 units of the Petya-I class, it will thus be a good 5 years before the last of them have received this equipment. Also another Petya-I has been seen which is likewise equipped with a VDS system but in a different configuration. For this installation the stern was cut deeply and a mine of sorts made in the after position, this being open to the rear and ending in a ramp shape. Two platforms have been built portside at the height of the upper deck and the recovery of the device can be observed and, if required, supported from these. There is also a deck house aft which is not so wide as that on the Petya-I mod but is 5 meters longer. There is, however, no connection with the VDS because this superstructure — which begins directly behind the funnel — is too far from the stern or the VDS device. But since this structure also has some side windows, it could house crew members and, more likely, be used for their training and thus the suspicion arises that this is a training ship for VDS training.

⁶ ECM= electronic countermeasures; SIGINT = signal intelligence; ELINT = electronic intelligence.

Some individual Mirka-II class frigates are now being seen with a so-called dipping sonar. This is an underwater locating system very similar to the VDS. Evidently it is a device adapted from the model used by ASW helicopters and is dipped to the extent of available cable. In contrast to VDS, operation of such a dipping sonar is possible only when the ship equipped with it is stopped. The device has been installed in a housing in the port side with the top being barely above the level of the upper deck. In operation a gate opens and the device is played out from an extendable arm (see Figure 7) [not reproduced].

A third variant of the Grisha class has been reported but without any unclassified photography. The sketch recently printed in a handbook shows an altered and, especially, higher superstructure on which a 23mm sextuple AAA weapon and a higher mounted Bass Tilt fire control device are mounted in line. Everything else is unchanged.

[No 8, Aug 77, pp 412-415, 418-419]

Submarines

[Text] More details are now available about some submarines reported for years but still largely unknown. This refers mainly to the Bravo, Alpha and Papa classes of which drawings have now been published but unfortunately — with the exception of the Alpha class — still without photographic evidence.⁸ These indicate that the appearance of the Bravo class is considerably different than previously presented. Its special characteristics are the turret with straight walls fore and aft and the sharply arched, almost hump shaped, teardrop hull. The Alpha class represents one of the smallest nuclear powered submarine types in the world. Only the American Skip Jack class of 1957 is externally smaller. It is very probable that the Alpha class represents an experimental type developed to test certain units, weapon systems and the like. In this connection a French source hints at the possibility of further developed automation procedures.¹⁰ Perhaps the Alpha class was designed for long term testing of such systems.

There are photographs permitting a reliable evaluation of the Tango class first noted in mid 1973. In size, displacement and powerplant, it is a further development of the Foxtrot class. The similarity is obvious even in the turret shape. But the hull shape of the Tango class differs from that of the Foxtrot. The hull rises at a slight angle somewhat forward of the turret. Otherwise it seems to be built according to a conventional design since there is no rudder cross visible aft as with the Bravo and Alpha class.

⁷Schulz-Torge, "The Soviet Navy," p. 507.

⁸Schulz-Torge, op. cit., pp. 611, 617, 625.

⁹Such as in "Jane's Fighting Ships 1976-77," p. 699.

¹⁰Labayle-Couhat, "Flottes de Combat 1976," p. 471 (English edition 1976: "Combat Fleets of the World 1976/76," p. 393.)

The Papa class known since 1971 is a type that did not go into series production for unknown reasons. It must, however, be considered that it could be a test platform for testing of weapons, equipment, powerplants and the like. The armament consists of ten SS-N-7 ship-to-ship guided missiles arranged in groups of five in a row in the forward hull area. This Papa class seems to have a close association with the Charlie class equipped with eight SS-N-7 and of which an enlarged variant, designated by NATO as the Charlie-II class, was reported in 1975. The hull has been lengthened by 9 meters to almost 103 meters to house two more — thus a total of ten — SS-N-7. This makes it clear that the Papa class will certainly not be retained but that the track has turned back to a proven type which has been correspondingly modified.

The Echo-I class submarines have all now been rebuilt as normal — meaning equipped with torpedoes — submarines by removing the SS-N-3 guided missile containers. In its present configuration it is carried under the NATO designation of Echo class in contrast to the Echo-II units which still retain their guided missile armament (although these no longer meet the newer requirements) and thus there has been no reason to change their designation class.

Overall one must at present reckon with 70 submarines (43 of them nuclear powered) whose 448 SS-N-3 and SS-N-7 missiles represent a notable combat potential against surface ships. Whereas it was hitherto considered certain that the mission of the guided missile cruisers and destroyers was to combat western carrier strike groups, amphibious formations and ASW forces, it now seems that a change has taken place in this respect. It must now be reckoned that in the future these missions will be accomplished by submarines equipped with ship-to-ship guided missiles while the surface units — as already noted elsewhere — will be used largely for ASW.

A new type of nuclear submarine first sighted in 1973 was first given the NATO designation of Uniform class but this was quickly changed to Victor-II.

The reason was evidently that the new type seemed with some certainty to be derived from the Victor class (now designated Victor-I class). The hull and turret shapes are virtually identical. The external dimensions of the Victor-II are 4.60 meters longer and only slightly wider. According to later information Victor-I and Victor-II are equipped with both torpedoes and eight SS-N-15 guided missiles, a weapon system about which the source reports only that it is a nuclear depth charge, this apparently referring to the "payload" of the missile. Nor do British reference works¹²

¹¹ Schulz-Torge, op. cit., p. 245ff, 615ff.

¹² "Jane's Fighting Ships 1975-76," p. 790. (Captain Moore does not even list this weapon system in his book "The Soviet Fleet Today." In "Combat Fleets of the World," p. 381, Labayle-Couhat makes the following note: "ASW missile similar to the U.S. Navy's Subroc. Maximum range: 25 miles. Nuclear warhead.").

say a great deal more. They do, however, report an operational range of 20 nautical miles and in operation status of 1974 although the latter is given a question mark. If the Victor-I class is considered to carry 32 torpedoes and also to have SS-N-15 available, this can only be interpreted as meaning that the missiles can be carried in place of some torpedoes and that they can be fired from the torpedo tubes. A load of 32 torpedoes plus eight missiles seems very doubtful given the limited size of the Victor-I class and the same considerations apply to the not much larger Victor-II.

It was reported that the aged Golf class has been reequipped with the SS-N-13 weapon system. This is a ballistic missile of Mach 4 speed and a range of 350 to 400 nautical miles and supposedly even has a multiple warhead. This information is somewhat surprising since the first units of this class have reached a service life of about 20 years and thus are at an age at which warships are already economically run down. It is questionable if such reequipment is worth it. If it has been done, there must be important reasons to justify such measures. Possibly associated is the transfer of a number of Golf units to the Baltic in the fall of 1976. The objection could be raised that such a reequipment could also be done in Severodvinsk or Severomorsk in the high north; however, the peculiarities of the communist economic system with state controlled industry have often lead to decisions which seem incomprehensible from the view of western industry guided by economic viewpoints. Basically one will have to wait to see what happened with the Golf class boats seen until they appear again.

According to informed American circles, in the fall of 1976 the Soviets made their first successful launch of a multiple warhead (MIRV) from a submarine which could only have been a Delta-I or Delta-II. It was said to have been a missile of the new SS-NX-18 type which is equipped with at least three independent warheads. Construction of the Delta-I class, evaluated as an interim type, must be taken with certainty to have ended. It can now be assumed that only the Delta-II, whose units are now considered to be the largest submarines in the world, continues to be built. Only the American Ohio class submarines under construction and to be equipped with Trident-I missiles will be larger but here it is not so much a question of size as of the nuclear destructive potential.

Small Warships

A detailed report about the Turya class appeared in issue 2/75. It can be added that these are not fast torpedo boats but rather fast subchasers or, to a certain degree, fast ASW boats. This is indicated by the dipping sonar on the starboard stern. The numbers delivered to date make it clear that this class has gone into series production.

More than 10 years after the delivery of the last torpedo boat of the Shershen class, the followon¹³ type expected for some time was noted in 1976. It is the Mol class, a type very similar to the Shershen.

¹³ Mol = mole, quay, pier.

Noteworthy is that both armament and electronics down to positioning and arrangement are the same even in terms of models and numbers. The 3-meter longer Mol should also have motor drive (and not gas turbine propulsion) and a performance not less than that of the Shershen. There has also been a misunderstanding about this new type. "Jane's Fighting Ships 1975/76" shows it (although not under its NATO designation) but in a different section than that for the Soviet Union. It is listed under Sri Lanka which has recently received warships from the Soviet Union. The first of these was evidently the boat delivered toward the end of 1975 and placed in service as the Samudra Devi. "Jane's" identifies this as a Stenka class but it is actually one of the Mol class without, however, the torpedo tubes and the Drum Tilt fire control as the photograph dated December 1975 shows. Delivery of units of this new construction abroad may be considered an exception since the Soviets normally allow the export of such types as are several years old.

The long overdue followon type — first called Tarakan by NATO and finally the Saranka class¹⁴ — was first seen in the eastern Baltic a few months ago as it started sea trials. It is a hydrofoil of about 210 tons displacement and over 40 meters long. Nothing definite can yet be said about the armament but it is almost certain that these boats are guided missile weapon system carriers. More will probably be known in the near future.

Mine Sweepers

Photographs now published of certain units of the T-43 class, the now oldest mine sweeper type in service, show that their armament has been changed. These no longer have the almost antiquated 37mm L/63 twin AAA gun. This position now has a single mount which apparently is the 57mm L/70 AAA gun that the Sasha class shallow water mine sweepers have.

One vehicle of the Vanya class has been rebuilt as a mine hunter. There seems to be only one such in the Soviet Navy if one disregards the Ilyusha class which is to be discussed later. The aft mounted tripod lattice mast suggests that a remotely controlled, self propelled device is being operated or tested. The sweeper gear formerly on the stern step is gone but now there are two dinghies under patent davits at this location and these would be needed for reaching the device if it became fouled for any reason or had to be troubleshot. Also noticeable is the replacement of the 30mm twin AAA by a 25mm L/70 twin and also the bridge house is changed, that is, lengthened somewhat. Since it exists only in a single unit, it follows that this will be a test vehicle.

Also to be mentioned are the picket boats of the Zhuk class, a new development from the first half of the 1970's. This is probably the followon to

¹⁴Tarakan = cockroach; sarancha = grasshopper.

the hitherto lesser known PO-2 class. A number of the Zhuk class boats have already been exported to other countries. Cuba is said to have received five units in 1975 and Iraq four in the same year. For the Soviet Navy 20 units were reported at the beginning of 1976, 10 each in the Baltic and Black Sea. The Zhuk shows a greater emphasis on speed than before. The powerplant (probably two diesels) delivers 1,000 hp and could reach up to 22 knots. Armament consists of a 14.5mm twin AAA in the aft position. Some units are said to also have a 12.7mm machinegun on the forecastle and sometimes even a launcher group for unguided artillery rockets. It is generally assumed that this class is assigned to the border guards of the KGB (Committee for State Security). The units of the PO-2 class are substantially older but at the beginning of 1976 about 70 units were still available. These are only slightly smaller than the Zhuk boats but slower and not as heavily armed. The PO-2 class is also seen in other countries. Bulgaria is said to have built 24 boats under license between 1957 and 1960 and Albania is said to have received 10 units from the USSR at the same time.

The Sonya class appeared as a new mine sweeper type. It is the followon to the Zhenya class, the construction of which was evidently stopped after a few units. Both classes have the same hull construction. Glass fiber reinforced plastic is used as the construction material. As compared with the Zhenya class, the Sonya class is considerably enlarged and also somewhat better armed. It is 5.80 meters longer, 0.20 meters wider and, in addition to the 30mm twin AAA, also has a 25mm twin in the aft position. More recent is the sighting of an hydraulic crane, also seen on some mine sweepers of the Natya class, on the rear part of the ship. The number of the Sonya class seen to now indicates that this type has gone into series production.

The Yevgenya class known since the beginning of the 1970's represents a new inland waters mine sweeper type also suspected of having a glass fiber reinforced plastic hull. Its size is modest, being under 100 tons and slightly over 26 meters long. Exactly half of the upper deck — the rear — is reserved for searching and sweeping gear. A 14.5mm twin AAA machinegun has been posted forward for self defense.

A new type of mine sweeper recognized later has been given the NATO designation of Ilyusha class. With its operational displacement of 70 tons and a length of 24.4 meters, it is directly on the lower boundary of what appears acceptable for such a type. Noticeable is the comparatively high, in comparison with the hull and superstructure, mast, a four-legged girder mast with several antennas of different types. This installation suggests that these boats might be equipped for remote control of self propelled sweep gear as otherwise such a heavy mast would not be necessary.

Amphibious Ships

The newest addition to the Soviet amphibious forces, the Ropucha class built in Poland, has already been described in issue 3/76. It may be added that — contrary to original suspicions — no SA-N-4 ship-to-air guided

missile weapon system is carried. What was initially taken as evidence for the presence of this is likely an empty circular track for an additional weapon system, perhaps for an artillery rocket launcher. A close look, however, shows two more circular tracks: on the upper deck just before the first superstructure deck, an arrangement and position similar to that on the Polnocny class landing ships. It seems most likely that such launcher groups — descendants of the Katyusha launcher of World War II — would be subsequently installed here. At present armament consists of only the two 57mm L/80 twin automatic turrets.

A refit has been noted on the Alligator class. Two ships (perhaps more by now) now have on the deck house on the forecastle (which not all ships have) a launcher group for such unguided artillery rockets. At the moment nothing more can be said because the only available photos of these show them covered with a tarpaulin. A short stub mast has been erected behind this superstructure and two 25mm L/70 AAA twins have been installed aft in a banked arrangement. A deck house, the roof of which cuts off level with the funnel, has been built on most ships of this class.

The final item worthy of mention is the changes noted on certain Polnocny class landing ships. These have received ship-to-air guided missiles, four per ship, and these are divided into two sectors. Two of them have their position on the main deck in front of the superstructure and the other two on the bridge arms jutting out to the sides. This guided missile weapon system is possibly a "navalized" variant of the SA-9 (Gaskin) or SA-7 (Grail)¹⁵ used by army formations for mobile troop air defense. While the number of such reequipped Polnocny units is still limited, the future prospects for units of this class (and not just it alone!) will be interesting if the weapon system mentioned proves itself. It is true that neither system can combat approaching aircraft but rather must be fired during receding flight (because these missiles respond to heat sources) but the defensive potential of the ships so equipped is considerably increased.

SOLDAT UND TECHNIK will report separately on newly recognized auxiliary and support ships at the appropriate time.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 356 Taken from an American reconnaissance aircraft: the Soviet ASW aircraft carrier Kiev with five Kamov-25 ASW helicopters ready on the flight deck. The different types of deck planking can be clearly seen. It seems to be fire and heat resistant material needed because of the vertical lift engines of the Forger aircraft. The markings on the port side rear of the flight deck clearly indicate preferred Forger takeoff points.

¹⁵ See "Recognition Sheets," series 196 and 211 (Gaskin) and series 183 and 206 (Grail).

2. p 358 The guided missile cruiser Vice Admiral Drozhd of the Kresta-I class after her modernization which effected the area between the bridge house and the turret mast exclusively. The twin launch containers for the SS-N-3 ship-to-ship missiles have been retained. There is no doubt, however, that its replacement by a modern weapon system will soon be necessary.
3. p 358 The "large ASW ships" of the Kresta-II class were built parallel with the Kara class but the former have the disadvantage of not having a variable depth sonar. It may be that such will be retrofitted. In that case it would have the same installation scheme as on the Kara class as this picture should make clear. In operation the gate to the container room swings up and a beam is extended from the interior to the extent that the sonar device hanging on it can be played out.
4. & p 358 In September 1976 the guided missile destroyer Smellyy of the
5. Kashin-mod class visited the Sicilian harbor of Messina. These two photos were taken there. Figure 5 shows one of the newly installed 23mm sextuple AAA (in the background is one of the two Owl Screech weapons control devices for the 76mm guns); Figure 4 shows the corresponding Bass Tilt fire control partially covered by a tarpaulin. In the background is the Peel Group fire control for operating the SA-N-1 ship-to-air missile.
6. p 359 A frigate of the Petya-I mod class, recognizable by the hull enlarged aft where the VDS is located.
7. p 359 This is how the dipping sonar on the Mirka-II class frigates is housed. A stall has been placed portside. In operation the gate swings open — as seen here — and the device can be played out by an extendable arm.
8. p 359 This modified variant of the Riga class was recognized at the beginning of the 1970's. It was evidently the predecessor for the configuration now appearing (see sketch).
9. p 412 The next to last development stage of Soviet nuclear strategic submarines is the Delta-I class, equipped with SS-N-8 missiles. It now seems possible that it will be eventually reequipped with the SS-NX-18.
10. p 412 A total of 34 units of the Yankee class are in service. Each of them is equipped with 16 SS-N-6 ballistic missiles. Development continues to progress. Neither the Yankee class or its SS-N-6 missiles are now in production.

11. p 412 The Victor-I class nuclear submarines and their Victor-II class successors were equipped with the SS-N-15 ASW missile. It is generally assumed that these are fired from the available torpedo tubes.
12. p 413 The Tango class has been known since the summer of 1973. It is a further development of the Foxtrot class as may be noted from the almost identical size and dimensions. Up to now the number of this class has been very small and it now appears unlikely that it will increase.
13. p 413 There is no external indication that this Echo class nuclear submarine was once equipped with tactical ship-to-ship guided missiles. After the appropriate installations were removed, these units continue to serve as submarines for torpedo operations.
14. p 414 Known since the mid 1970's: the Zhuk class, a new type of picket boat. Here one of these as deck cargo on a freighter, presumably an export article to a friendly country.
15. p 414 Not all but some of the T-43 class mine sweepers have received more modern armament. They now carry single 57mm tubes in place of the old 37mm L/63 twin AAA.
16. p 414 This Vanya class mine sweeper, a wooden construction from the 1960's, is now used as a mine hunter. The new aft mounted mast with its antennas points to a remote control function.
17. p 414 The Zhenya class appeared following the Sonya class and is likewise a construction with glass fiber reinforced plastic hull. The Sonya class has gone into series production, evidently to the disadvantage of the Zhenya class of which only a few units were built.
18. p 415 The Ropucha class represents the newest type of Soviet landing ship. Previously a SA-N-4 installation was suspected in the deck house directly before the bridge front but this has not been confirmed. It is possibly a circular track on which some other weapon system or equipment will be mounted later. Two other circular tracks, possibly for unguided artillery rocket launcher groups, are recognizable on the upper deck just in front of the superstructures.

8373
CSO: 1826

'PRAVDA' REVIEWS VOLUME EIGHT OF WW II HISTORY

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 77 p 2 LD

[Article by Yu. Polyakov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "It Was the 5th Year of War..."]

[Excerpts] The eighth volume has been published of the history of World War II (Footnote) (The History of World War II, 1939-1945. In 12 volumes. Chairman of the main editorial commission: D. F. Ustinov. Volume eight: The Collapse of the Fascist Bloc's Defensive Strategy [Krusheniye Oboronitelnoy Strategii Fashistskogo Bloka]. Chief Editor Ye. P. Yegorov. Vo, Enizdat, 1977)--The fundamental 12-volume publication undertaken by the USSR Defense Ministry Institute of Military History in conjunction with the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism and with the USSR Academy of Sciences Institutes of General History and of USSR History. This volume describes the events which occurred from December 1943 through May 1944. Ahead lay a year of the most intense fighting in Europe and the decisive battles in the Far East, but through the clouds of powder smoke shrouding the earth the dawn of the great victory could be seen more and more clearly.

The volume presents rich and vivid material about the liberation movement in the occupied and dependent countries of Europe showing that the Soviet army's victories opened up real prospects for speedy liberation from Fascism and thus served as a powerful stimulus in activating the peoples' struggle for freedom. The reader will find information about the role of various classes and parties in the resistance movement. "The motive forces of the resistance were the working class and the peasantry, who bore the main burden of the Fascist occupation regime.... The working class, guided by the Marxist-Leninist parties, rallied around itself all progressive patriotic elements and emerged as the leading, most active and organized force," the book says.

The authors correctly note the international nature of the resistance movement. The people's struggle for the freedom and independence of their countries became part of the general struggle against Fascism and

reaction. The working masses came out not only against the Fascist invaders but also against the internal reactionary forces which compromised themselves by collaborating with the Hitlerites.

Interesting facts and conclusions are included in the book on the national liberation movement of the peoples of Asia and Africa. During the war years fundamental changes occurred in the social awareness of the oppressed peoples. The certainty of being able to do away with colonial slavery grew. The national liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries of Asia and Africa was directed not only against the German and Japanese invaders but also against the "old colonialists." Thus the imperialist colonial system as a whole was weakened.

Questions of foreign policy and international relations occupy an important place in the work under review. The German and Japanese leaders, going over to a defensive strategy, placed much hope on the instability of the anti-Fascist coalition and the contradictions between its members.

These contradictions did indeed exist. There was the political hostility of the reactionary circles of the United States and Britain toward the USSR. The creation of the first coalition in history of states with different socio-political systems was no easy matter. But the leaders of the United States and Britain could not ignore the will of the people to rally all anti-Fascist forces. They had to recognize the necessity of cooperation with the USSR in the face of the Fascist threat hanging over the entire world. The split in the anti-Hitler coalition did not occur. On the contrary the cooperation between the USSR, the United States and Britain was extended in this period. The most important factor which contributed to strengthening the coalition was the consistent, principled foreign policy of the Soviet state.

Instructive in this sense was the Teheran Conference, which took place in the very first days of the period examined in the volume. For the first time the leaders of the USSR, United States and Britain gathered together to make a decision on coordinated attacks on the enemy.

One-third of a century separates us from the events described in this volume. But the rapid passing of the years does not diminish the importance of the battles now ended. On the contrary, the longer the interval of time, the stronger is the image before the world of the great feats accomplished by the Soviet people. From a new historical summit the role of the Soviet Union, which made the decisive contribution to the defeat of Fascism, becomes even more clearly visible. And with even greater depth we can see the importance of the guiding and organizing activity of the communist party, which raised the people of the country to the patriotic war and insured the mobilization of all forces to achieve victory.

MINSK RADIO TALK VIEWS PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF CIVIL DEFENSE

Minsk Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 30 Aug 77 LD

[Talk in the series "For the People About Civil Defense" on the theme: "The Moral, Political and Psychological Preparation of the Civil Defense Forces and the People for Activities in Conditions of Modern War."]

[Excerpts] Questions concerning the moral, political and psychological preparation of the people for the defense of the fatherland have always been and still are at the center of attention of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. On many occasions V. I. Lenin pointed to the need to create a high moral spirit in Soviet people. He said: In every war the final victory is glorified by the spiritual state of the masses which shed their blood on the battlefield. The correctness of these words of Lenin was confirmed with great conviction during the years of the Great Patriotic War, in which our people acted on an unprecedented moral and political level, and millions of Soviet people demonstrated their high combat and psychological preparedness.

Lenin's words about the significance of the moral factor in war ring with an even greater force now, in condition of a possible use of means of mass destruction. If imperialists are able to unleash it, the next world war will be a nuclear missile war. Therefore, the requirements for the moral and combat qualities of man raise acutely. Hence the need to devise new ways and means for the moral, political and psychological preparedness not only of the Soviet armed forces, but also of the civil defense formations and of the entire population.

The main point is that every Soviet individual should be deeply convinced of the righteousness of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and consider the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government as his own policy; that every Soviet man should be a convinced patriot and internationalist [words indistinct] and ready at any time during war to fulfill honorably the duties of a Soviet citizen in the most difficult conditions both in the frontline and in the rear.

The equipment of the Soviet armed forces with powerful nuclear missiles and other weapons indispensable for the reliable defense of the country and the entire community of socialist countries is an active factor strengthening the moral fiber of all the Soviet people. But this does not reduce the significance of the need for high combat, moral, political and psychological preparedness by the civil defense personnel and by the entire population of the country.

The comprehensive site exercises [kompleksnyye obyektovyye ucheniya] have been the main practical school for training all categories of the population for activities in conditions of the application of the mass destruction weapons. In such exercises a corresponding atmosphere is created for every category of trainee and the instructiveness of this atmosphere is carefully consolidated. The complicated nature of the atmosphere created during an exercise enables people to experience difficulties which they might encounter in real conditions. For this purpose the elements of surprise and risk are introduced into the atmosphere; the external picture of the results of a nuclear explosion is (?simulated); fires are created; mock-up machinery is (?used), as well as a thick smokescreen; there is simulation of blowing up buildings and bridges and rendering people ineffective.

In such an atmosphere not only quick reaction and initiative is demanded of the trainees, but also a high degree of self-control and endurance, as well as a great moral and physical effort.

A similar situation was created at site exercises held this year in Vetkovskiy, Belynicheskii, Shumilinskiy, Myadelskiy, Berestovitskiy, Slonimskiy, Invanovskiy and Soligorskiy rayons. In the political education work carried out at the same time the efforts of party, Soviet, trade union, komsomol and other public organizations were focused on the practical preparation of people, on improving their political consciousness and on their successful fulfillment of production tasks with simultaneous and knowledgeable fulfillment of their civil defense duties and the creation of the required psychological feeling.

Questions concerning the preparation and holding of exercises were examined at meetings of the bureau of raykoms and other party committees and of the party and komsomol organizations. The forms and methods of psychological preparation, possible obstacles during exercises and ways of overcoming them, and the ways of summing up the results of work done were discussed. In Slonimskiy and Myadelskiy rayons, for example, the entire aktiv, headed by members of the party raykom bureaus, went to all kolkhozes and sovkhozes and enterprises on one day. In lectures, reports and talks the domestic and foreign policy of the USSR in the light of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress were explained, as were the aims and tasks of the coming exercises. Particular attention was paid to maintaining the membership and formations of civil defense, and to maintaining high moral-political spirit and psychological feeling in the populace. Communists and komsomol members displayed personal examples of the fulfillment of tasks set for them.

The explanation of tasks likely to emerge in life [words indistinct] was done with the help of the press, radio and cinema. [passage omitted referring to several published articles]

Several items devoted to questions of the moral and psychological behavior of people during exercises were broadcast on rayon radio. During the preparation period, the main cinema and the mobile club of the standard civil defense courses organized a widespread showing of films of all farms in the rayon, with such titles as "The Comprehensive Site Exercise;" "When The Alarm Sounds;" "It Is Everyone's Duty;" "The Duties of the Population During a Threat of an Attack;" "A Combined Way of Evacuation," and so on.

At the same time the main duties of civil defense personnel and the population as a whole were explained in talks. In the press and in combat broadsheets [boyevyye listiki], particular attention was devoted to the situation as it would develop, ways to solve given tasks, and to the determination of safety, order and discipline. This broad explanatory activity was reflected positively in the readiness of the people and their practical ability to resolve the given tasks. [passage omitted, describing such activity on a named farm]

A high degree of organization, courage and selflessness was displayed by civil defense formations in the struggle against the recent natural calamities in Brestsaya Oblast. The experience acquired becomes the requisite of all civil defense headquarters, services and formations.

Involving themselves in the nationwide socialist competition worthily to meet the 60th anniversary of Great October, civil defense workers in the republic are doing all that is necessary to educate civil defense personnel and the population in high moral-political and psychological steadfastness while fulfilling tasks in conditions of the use of mass destruction means.

CSO: 1801

BRIEFS

DIVER TRAINING--At midnight the rescue ship quickly went to the "N" quadrant where a submarine had "suffered an accident." A sharp, gusty wind which limited visibility complicated the rescuers' task, but they arrived at the place of the "accident" before the stipulated time. The lagoon, surrounded by hills, was relatively calm. Rapidly evaluating the situation, the commander of the rescue ship gave the necessary orders. Deep sea diver Warrant Officer V. Midyanyy went to the bottom first. Vladimir Ivanovich always acts in a cool-headed, careful and courageous manner in the depths. It is not for nothing that Midyanyy has been awarded two decorations: the Labor Red Banner and the Badge of Honor. One after another the members of the crew of the "sunken" submarine were raised on board the rescue ship. Again this time the leader of the exceptional team, Warrant Officer V. Midyanyy and his subordinates displayed high combat standards. Noting the skill of the rescuers, the senior officer in charge named Warrant Officer Midyanyy first among the most exceptional and congratulated him for a significant event: during his years of service, Vladimir Ivanovich spent 3,500 working hours under water. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Jun 77 p 2] 9080

SUBMARINE MANEUVERS--Red Banner Pacific Ocean Fleet--Having hit the main target with a torpedo, the ballistic missile submarine conducted the break-away maneuver with precision and hid in the depths. The sonar operator on watch, Seaman First Class A. Ponomarev, was at complete attention. In the earphones were the many sounds of the ocean, and it was important to hear in that "choir" the single sound which would give away the presence of the "enemy" ship. The commander of the nuclear powered vessel, Captain First Rank A. Kazakov, again and again checks the accuracy of the position of the submarine with the navigator and rechecks the variants of the computations for torpedo attack. He knows that the "enemy" will try to take revenge for the "loss" of its submarine vessel. We are kept waiting long for the report of the sonar operator: contact with the underwater target has been established. The commander of the ship is sure of his subordinates. Before leaving for sea he visited all the fighting stations. He checked the preparedness of the torpedo crews especially critically and again called the attention of Lieutenant M. Kabanov to the need for coordinated activity by the torpedo-men and for high quality preparation of the weapons. The command "fire" sounded at the moment that the "enemy" submarine, as the sonar operator re-

ported, was laying on a course favorable to itself. The torpedo volley again this time proved to be accurate. This is but one episode from the lives of a nuclear powered submarine--the initiator of socialist competition for a worthy celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October in the Navy. Submariners these days are studying with special diligence and enthusiasm, called forth by the discussion of the USSR Constitution project and the work of the session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAVA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 77 p 3] 9080

NAVAL CREW PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR--Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet--A scientific-practical seminar on the subject "The Komsomol Organization and the Military Collective" was held at the Kaliningrad Higher Naval School. During its course fundamental questions of the psychology of the military collective were discussed, and the importance of its cohesiveness on the basis of firm military comradeship and navy friendship was emphasized. Former Komsomol activist at the school, its recent graduate Sr Lt A. Polivets, who today successfully commands a ship, told about how he directs the activity of the Komsomol organization for crew unity. At the seminar the experience of another student of the school was shared, that of Sr Lt V. Gay, who ably leans on the Komsomol activists for solving combat training tasks and for strengthening military discipline on ocean voyages. Activists of Komsomol organizations of all year groups and faculties of the school participated in discussing questions at the seminar. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 77 p 3] 9080

ARTILLERY FIRING CONFERENCE--Red Banner Belorussian Military District--The traditional annual artillery conference took place here. Its participants summed up the results of the winter combat training of artillerymen, discussed questions of fire control, reconnaissance, target and point registration, shifting of fire and other things. Gen Maj of Artillery L. Kotsar' and Col I. Makarenko presented reports. Officers V. Barsov, I. Chikal, M. Levadin and G. Dubrovskiy shared their experience in work on further raising the accuracy, speed and reliability of artillery fire. First deputy commander of district forces, Gen Lt of Tank Forces A. Semirenko; first deputy chief of the district political administration, Gen Maj V. Nechayev; and representatives of the Military Artillery Academy imeni M. I. Kalinin participated in the work of the conference. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jun 77 p 2] 9080

ARTILLERY HELILIFT--Red Banner Transcaucasian Military District--The helicopters appeared suddenly. In the rays of the setting sun they came up from behind the mountains and, having deployed, immediately landed. The unloading of an artillery battery took calculated minutes. And then the machines with their towed guns already churned up dust along the road toward the intended area. The help of the artillerymen was very opportune for the attacking sub-units. And the troops long remembered with a good word the helicopter pilots of the squadron commanded by Maj V. Morozov for the precision and exactness with which they fulfilled the combat training mission. [photo captions] 1. Squadron commander Maj V. Morozov refines the flight mission of helicopter commanders Sr Lt M. Samsonenko and Capt E. Nikolayev (from left to right). 2. Loading the artillery battery on the helicopters. [Text] [Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jun 77 p 1] 9080

END